MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 AUGUST 1981

Egyptian-Israeli Relations

MENA reported that the Egyptian-Israeli Joint High Committee met in Alexandria on 27 August to discuss arrangements for Israel's final withdrawal from the Sinai. After the meeting, the Israeli representative, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, announced that a number of joint subcommittees on civil matters, as well as a joint military committee, will meet in September to discuss specific arrangements for normalization in the Sinai. Sharon said the appropriate subcommittees will decide arrangements for the transfer of Israeli settlements in the Sinai, MENA reported, and added that Israel will remove the equipment from the two airports but will transfer roads and fixed installations to the Egyptian Government. Citing an Egyptian participant in the joint committee, MENA reported that Egypt is ready to buy any equipment the Israelis offer for sale when they evacuate the Sinai settlements. MENA also noted that Sharon held a separate meeting with his Egyptian counterpart, Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah. After the meeting, Ghazalah said the Egyptian-Israeli military commission will meet in Al-'Arish in September and there are no problems regarding the Israeli withdrawal, which will be scrupulously implemented in accordance with the agreed timetable.

Egypt

The Jordanian weekly AKHBAR AL-USBU' reported that President Anwar as-Sadat escaped an assassination attempt on 24 August while on his way to inspect military units in the Ismailia region. A group of officers had prepared to ambush the president's motorcade, the report said, but were thwarted when one of the turned informer at the last minute. A military force then dealt with the ambushers, killing three and arresting the others.

Libya

Tripoli radio reported that Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi returned to Libya on 27 August, where he was accorded an enthusiastic welcome at Tripoli International Airport.

Jordan

Petra-JNA reported the 26 August meeting between King Husayn and French President Francois Mitterrand at a working dinner at the Elysee Palace, during which they reviewed international issues and bilateral relations. After a subsequent meeting with French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson, according to Monte Carlo radio, King Husayn reiterated his view that the Camp David accords cannot solve the Middle East's basic problem: the fate of the Palestinian people.

Lebanon

Beirut radio reported that Syrian Arab Deterrent Forces entered a southern suburb of the capital to halt clashes between rival local organizations. Ten people were hospitalized as a result of the fighting, which had started during the afternoon in the Ash-Shiyah quarter. According to Voice of Lebanon radio, the clashes were between the Shi'ite Amal Movement and Palestinian and communist forces.

Gulf

In an interview with the newspaper OMAN, on 27 August reported by Salalah radio, Omani Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah said that in response to the recently created Libya-Ethiopia-PDRY tripartite alliance, his nation will take the steps necessary to assure its security. These measures include the purchase of sophisticated weapons from all sources, including Great Britain, the United States and other Western countries. The official described the alliance as a spearhead of Soviet military influence.

Pakistan

President Ziaul Haq, in remarks reported by Karachi radio, said that his recent talks with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Nikolay Firyubin were very cordial and that the two sides exchanged views on various issues, including Afghanistan. He described the discussions as "constructive and positive" and said they will greatly contribute to improving Pakistan's relations with both the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. The president said Pakistan will consider the new Afghan peace formula when it is officially received and added that the new proposals indicate "a lot of flexibility" in Kabul.

Regarding the reported delay in the implementation of the Pakistani-U.S. arms deal, Ziaul Haq said he hopes for a positive response from the United States before long.

Iran

Tehran radio reported that two Mojahedin-e Khalq rebels have been executed in Ilam and that more than 160 leftists have been arrested in a number of cities. According to another radio report, continuing operations against the Kurdish Democratic Party and allied political groups in northwest Iran have resulted in the killing of 25 and the arrest of 4 by government forces.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East and Africa

Vol V No 167 *28 August 1981*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

'Arafat Adviser Submits Peace Plan to UN Seminar [Beirut AL-BAYRAQ 24 Aug] A 1
VOP: 'Arafat Receives U.S., UN Delegations A 1
Al-Wazir on Israel, Cease-Fire, Other Issues A 2

ARABIAN PENINSULA

OMAN

Official Interviewed on Arms, Iranian Pilots C 1
Deputy Prime Minister Meets Upper Voltan Official C 1

SAUDI ARABIA

Prince Sultan Makes Statement on Arms Acquisition C 1
Morocco's King Hassan Visits Saudi Arabia 27 Aug C 2
Afternoon Arrival C 2
Evening Departure C 2
Briefs: New Ambassadors C 2

EGYPT

Israel's Sharon Holds Meetings, Departs 27 Aug D 1
Joint Committee Meeting D 1
Abu Ghazalah Meeting D 1
'Source' Says Sinai Settlements To Be Evacuated D 2
Abu Ghazalah Says USSR Instigated Libya-U.S. Clash D 2
OCTOBER Sees U.S. Clash With Libya as 'Deterrence' [23 Aug] D 2

IRAQ

Armed Forces General Command Communique 442 E 1
Hammadi Marks First Anniversary of Iranian War E 1
Further Details E 2
Aziz on Nuclear Cooperation, Gulf War, Kurds [Paris LE MONDE 22 Aug] E 2
Minister Signs Brazilian Cooperation Minutes E 5

JORDAN

Assassination Attempt Reported Against As-Sadat [AKHBAR AL-USBU' 27 Aug] F 1
Commentary Criticizes As-Sadat, Begin Talks F 1
King Husayn Arrives in Paris for Visit 26 Aug [cross-reference] F 1

LEBANON

VOL Reports Grenade Attack on Saudi Embassy G 1
More on Attack G 1
Amal, PLA, Communists Clash in Beirut 27 Aug G 1
ADF Intervenes G 1
Envoys Return From Arab Tour, Make Statements G 2

SYRIA

Al-Asad Receives Junblatt for Lebanon Discussions H 1
Al-Kasm Pledges Continued Presence in Lebanon [TISHRIN 23 Aug] H 1
Ba'th Memo on U.S. 'Aggression' Against Libya H 2
ATH-THAWRAH Calls For Striking at U.S. Interests H 3

ISRAEL

Reportage, Commentary on Alexandria Summit I 1
Begin, As-Sadat Discuss Libya [YEDI'OT AHARONOT 27 Aug] I 1
Sharon's Talks in Alexandria I 1
Sinai Installations Decision I 2
Further Details [DAVAR 28 Aug] I 2
Sinai Settlers Oppose Accord I 2
'Ali: Sinai Open to Israelis [MA'ARIV 28 Aug] I 3
'Ali 'AL HAMISHMAR Interview [27 Aug] I 3
Begin Lists Achievements [MA'ARIV 27 Aug] I 4
Harif Commentary [MA'ARIV 27 Aug] I 5

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Commentary Views Morocco, Sahara Referendum O 1

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Returns From Working Visits 27 Aug Q 2
Joint Libya-PDRY-Ethiopia Communique on Aden Talks Q 2
Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Cables on U.S. 'Aggression' Q 6
Soviet Trade Union Cable Q 6
SWAPO Cable Q 6
Habib Chatti Arrives in Tripoli for Visit 26 Aug Q 6
Cuban Delegations Arrive for Solidarity Event [Havana International] Q 6
Al-Qadhdhafi Cables Support to Angolan Leader Q 7

MAURITANIA

Haydala Pledges Support for Sahara Referendum Q 7

MOROCCO

MAP Views OAU Decision on Sahara as Victory Q 8

SUDAN

Khalil Says Sudan To Receive U.S., PRC Arms Q 9
SUNA Reports Factional Fighting in Chad Q 9

TUNISIA

Iraq's Tariq Aziz Arrives To Convey Message Q 9
Meets With Es-Sebsi Q 9

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

South African Incursion Strongly Condemned R 1
Eritreans Claim Victory Over Dergue Forces R 1

TANZANIA

South African Aggression Into Angola Condemned R 1

CENTRAL AFRICA

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

President Dacko Grants Amnesty to Prisoners S 1

RWANDA

Mobuto Arrives for Visit, Communique Issued S 1
Mobutu Remarks S 1
Joint Communique S 2

ZAIRE

Legislative Council Delegation Returns From USSR S 3
First State Commissioner Receives EEC Delegation S 3

WEST AFRICA

THE GAMBIA

Coup Attempt Leader Reported Free in Guinea-Bissau T 1

GHANA

South African Attack on Angola Condemned T 1

LIBERIA

Planning Minister Defects to Invory Coast T 1
Doe's Reaction T 2

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Defense Communique Reports Clashes With S. Africans U 1

SOUTH AFRICA

Security Forces Begin Withdrawal From Angola U 1
AFP Report on Fighting U 2

'ARAFAT ADVISER SUBMITS PEACE PLAN TO UN SEMINAR

PM270758 Beirut AL-BAYRAQ in Arabic 24 Aug 81 p 1

[Text] A Palestinian official and adviser to Yasir 'Arafat has submitted a three-stage peace plan for the Middle East crisis which has been described as likely to be "acceptable" to the PLO. This was submitted during a UN regional seminary on the Palestine problem held in Sri Lanka from 10 to 14 August.

The plan, published by the Lebanese English language weekly MONDAY MORNING, provides for Israeli withdrawal from the territories occupied since 1967, a transitional period under UN supervision, and then an international conference under the supervision of the world organization in which all parties, including Israel and the Palestinians, will take part to discuss outstanding problems.

'Afif Safiyyah, adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, explained that during the transitional period "the United Nations will take control of the territories which Israel evacuates in coordination with the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

The Palestinian official underlined the possibility of peaceful and harmonious coexistence in Palestine. He said that the PLO is not seeking revenge but an end to the persecution of a people. He stressed that after 15 years of struggle the PLO has been able to establish the Palestinian national entity, whose characteristics were previously lost, and that it now constitutes a kind of advance government carrying out the tasks of a state. It is no longer a mere organization.

VOP: 'ARAFAT RECEIVES U.S., UN DELEGATIONS

JN261721 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 Aug 81

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, last night received a delegation of U.S. congressional aides currently visiting the Palestinian revolution. The brother commander in chief explained to the American delegation the serious implications of the Zionist enemy's use of the American war machine against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples in the south, as well as Zionist racist plans in southern Lebanon. The U.S. delegation strongly denounced the massacres against innocent people and affirmed that it will convey its impressions to the U.S. public.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also received the delegation of the UN Committee of 23 for the achievement of the inalienable legitimate and basic rights of the Palestinian people that is currently visiting the PLO. The delegation is composed of five UN member states: Senegal, Sri Lanka, Ukraine, Turkey and Pakistan.

The brother commander in chief outlined to the delegation of the UN committee current developments in the area and their impact on the Palestine question, especially the mounting savage Zionist attacks and the hideous war of annihilation against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. Abu 'Ammar asserted that the Zionist enemy is violating the human rights of the Palestinians every day, both inside and outside the occupied territory, and is endangering the lives of the Palestinians through its hideous hostile practices, thereby flouting UN resolutions.

AL-WAZIR ON ISRAEL, CEASE-FIRE, OTHER ISSUES

PM260824 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 15-21 Aug 81 pp 4-6

[Interview granted by Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, Fatah Central Committee member and deputy commander in chief of the Al-'Asifah forces, to Khalid Salam; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Abu Jihad, top military man in the Palestinian resistance, began his exclusive interview with AL-MAJALLAH by saying that the recent Israeli attack "was not aimed only against the Palestinian revolution and southern Lebanon but also against every part of our Arab homeland, as was the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor, an action that could be repeated in any part of our Arab homeland." The recent resolutions adopted by the Joint Arab Defense Council, he added, were a reflection of the reality of the Arab situation and were less than the resistance aspired to. The following is the text of the interview with Abu Jihad:

[Question] What is your comment on the formation of the new Israeli Government, particularly in view of General Sharon's appointment as minister of defense?

[Answer] This new Zionist government was not contrary to what we expected. Anybody following developments in the enemy's policies will have expected such a Cabinet with a Zionist, fascist persuasion. In our view they are all the same in pursuing aggression against our people; they pursue the same policy of aggression against our rights and our existence although they may differ in their methods and execution.

Begin and Sharon represent the Zionist persuasion of applying the Zionist principles in which they believe and which they persistently carry out with no regard to international, legal, moral or political considerations. During the recent 15-day war Sharon was not far from the Defense Ministry. He probably inaugurated his new military era by witnessing the results of this war in which the Palestinian revolution, the joint forces and the PLO established a fact which Sharon, Begin and all the Zionist military and political leaders know, namely that in this war they are facing a will that is determined to fight and to confront, a will that believes that victory is imminent and it will be for it regardless of the war and destruction machine the enemy is using. We expect Sharon to flex his muscles in a new military adventure which is part of his constant policy based on the principle that he is constantly at war with the Palestinian revolution and the PLO. This war has not stopped in the past year; it has been going on in the form of special operations, naval landing operations, or air and artillery bombing operations being carried out daily, weekly and monthly. The Palestinian revolution is watching the developments in the Israeli military command, which will now undergo great changes under the new incumbent, Sharon, while bearing in mind the new regime and its policies, which will be characterized by blood, fire and destruction wrought by the enemy. But such enemy action will undoubtedly be wrecked on the rock of faith, confrontation, and determination.

[Question] Will the cease-fire decision hold?

[Answer] We expect our enemy to be evasive and tricky and we do not expect him to stop his attacks. If he agreed on a cease-fire for a period of time he did so because of circumstances and of pressures on him. If he was compelled in these circumstances to stop his shelling temporarily, we can read between the lines and fully realize that a conspiracy is undoubtedly being hatched. It will be a political conspiracy backed by political and military actions. But we will thwart their attempt once again through our constant vigilance.

There is a fact that must be explained here. Some people might believe that the cease-fire decision is something very grave, that is stopping the fighting against the enemy. The answer here is "no," a thousand times "no." We have declared our commitment to the PLO decision made long ago--to refrain from carrying military patrols and shelling across the Lebanese borders. As for our people's explosive and growing struggle, it continues and is escalating whether inside the occupied territories or across other borders through which we may be able to carry out our operations.

[Question] Do you expect the enemy to renew his bombing of towns and civilian communities? What measures have you taken to protect the people in these areas/ More precisely, are you expecting Israel to carry out another operation similar to [the bombing of] Al-Fakihani in Beirut?

[Answer] In our continuous battle with the enemy we have become used to taking account of all possibilities and anything that the enemy might produce from his dictionary of aggression. But we believe that international political factors will make him reluctant to deliberately bomb civilian communities as he did in Al-Fakihani under the pretext that the resistance has offices in the midst of such communities. This is despite the fact that the Al-Fakihani raid demonstrated that the enemy political and military leadership has no regard for international political factors or moral and human values.

This means that the enemy might repeat in the future what he did in the raid on Beirut. Therefore, in the light of these political and military facts of the 15-day battle and of the civilian losses during it, we expect the enemy to continue to pursue this course. We also expect new terrorist blows similar to the savage Al-Fakihani operation.

[Question] After the battles stopped we began hearing about proposals and plans concerning Lebanon or the Middle East problem as a whole. Does this mean that future battles will be even more violent?

[Answer] If the major battles have stopped we expect the enemy to launch new operations in the coming days, operations of a different type such as, for example, attacking the revolution leaderships or trying to score a victory against us by attacking specific targets, command posts or depots. For this reason we have laid down plans and taken the necessary measures to confront such possibilities.

The hot battles have stopped and, as we said, special operations with specific objectives will begin. But what is more serious is the political war we are expecting. This is logical, since after every hot military battle we are used to facing an even more vicious political battle.

For this reason we say that we are awaiting Philip Habib's plans of hostile policies to strike at the Palestinian revolution, the Lebanese national rank and the revolution's presence in Lebanon. In the next few weeks we expect moves to put this political conspiracy into effect. Through information we obtain from international, Arab and local sources we are following up the steps of this conspiracy which, as I said, is aimed against us, sometimes under the pretext of discussing the problems of southern Lebanon, or opening the Palestinian file, or talking about expanding the uncontrolled area and increasing the deployment of the Lebanese Army in the south or suggesting that the bridges [in southern Lebanon] be placed under the control of the UN forces, or the army, or the gendarmes. These and many other plans have been mentioned by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig and other U.S. officials.

[Question] In the Al-Fakihani operation the Palestinian resistance was blamed for not providing adequate protection for this important center. The same thing might also be said about other areas in Beirut.

[Answer] In our war with the enemy, particularly where his air force is concerned, we fight with everything we have. And we admit that the weapons that we have against the sophisticated U.S. planes are few and conventional, although they are effective thanks to the will that operates them. We fight with what we have and what we obtain. This has always been our slogan.

I must say that technical comparison between our weapons and the enemy's weapons is inadmissible because all the sophisticated military arsenal is in the service of Israel while our resources are limited, although we are exerting every effort to obtain sophisticated weapons. For this reason we are knocking on all doors in the hope of finding somebody who will meet our requirements for the confrontation. We might or might not find what we need but we will fight with everything we have.

[Question] What about field coordination with Syria in this regard and how successful have the attempts to deploy SAM-6 missiles in Beirut been?

[Answer] I will not be divulging a secret to say that there is coordination between us and our brothers in Syria in this regard. This coordination was significant in the recent battle. Syria supports us militarily as conditions permit and as much as possible. What it gives us contributes to intensifying resistance to enemy planes, whether this be antiaircraft guns or missiles that can be used in the camps or other locations. For our part we appreciate the circumstances of our brothers in Syria and are confident that we stand with them in the same confrontation battle and face the same fate, particularly since the enemy has designs against Palestinian and Lebanese territories and peoples as well as against Syria and every part of the Arab homeland.

[Question] During the recent battles questions were raised about Soviet armament of the Palestinian resistance, particularly in the field of air defense. What is the truth of the matter?

[Answer] Before answering this question it must be mentioned that the United States gives aid to the Zionist enemy on a large scale. The United States provides Israel with life and supplies it with all means of killing and destruction and with the weapons with which it attacks our camps and Lebanese towns and villages and kills unarmed citizens as well as using them in coercion against our people in the occupied territories.

The United States has been and still is the sponsor and guardian of our enemy while it denies our people's right to exist and denies their legitimate national rights.

With regard to the Soviet stand, it is on our side and on the side of our national rights and our position in the international arena. The Soviet Union stands with us as a friend supporting Palestine and its people. It also gives a number of Arab states the arms to defend themselves and their rights. With regard to us in the Palestinian revolution there is a continuing friendly dialogue between us and the Soviet Union. Proceeding from this premise we always seek to develop this relationship and increase the level of Soviet aid to us. I believe that we have made big strides on this road. We are looking forward to developing this aid because what is being offered to us is not compatible with the requirements of the battle we are fighting. Therefore, we are trying to obtain sophisticated arms that meet the needs of our continuing battles. This is part of our political struggle which requires from us perseverance, patience and persistence.

OMAN

OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED ON ARMS, IRANIAN PILOTS

GF271251 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1030 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Excerpts] Muscat, 27 Aug (GNA)--Yusuf al-'Alawi, Omani Foreign Ministry under secretary, has said that Oman is seeking to obtain new types of weapons from Great Britain, the United States and other Western countries. This is being done to implement the plan approved by Sultan Qabus of Oman to strengthen the defensive capabilities of the Omani Armed Forces.

In an interview with the official newspaper OMAN published today, Al-'Alawi said the Saudi peace initiative will achieve full equilibrium and bring about a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, once the Palestinian question has been resolved.

Asked about the fate of the two Iranian pilots who landed in Muscat recently aboard a military aircraft and about reports on their request for political asylum, the Omani Foreign Ministry under secretary said that Oman's policy is not to grant political asylum to anyone, particularly to individuals coming from countries neighboring Oman. He said that Oman views the Iranian pilots' action as a violation of Omani laws. They have been interrogated and referred to the courts for trial. He said that Oman's response will be in accordance with international norms and laws.

In response to a question on the Omani view on the recent downing of two Libyan planes, Al-'Alawi said that Oman does not support armed confrontation between various states. He declared: We believe that if a problem exists between the United States and Libya, the best way to approach it is through bilateral contacts or through a third party so that it will be resolved peacefully.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER MEETS UPPER VOLTAN OFFICIAL

GF272001 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1745 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Muscat, 27 Aug (GNA)--Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, the sultan of Oman, has received a written message from the president of Upper Volta dealing with bilateral relations. The message was delivered by Felix Tientaraboum, Upper Voltan minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, who is currently visiting the Sultanate of Oman. The message was delivered during a meeting held here today between the Upper Voltan minister and Fahd Al Bu Sa'id, Omani deputy prime minster for legal affairs. During the same meeting, the two officials discussed bilateral relations and the means of reinforcing them in all fields. They also reviewed current international issues of mutual interest.

SAUDI ARABIA

PRINCE SULTAN MAKES STATEMENT ON ARMS ACQUISITION

LD271318 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] The minister of defense and aviation, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, stressed that the kingdom is well aware of its own interests and realizes the importance of strengthening its capability in order to meet all eventualities.

In a statement published by 'UKAZ today, his royal highness emphasized that at the same time, the kingdom realizes the extent of the Arab, international and Islamic responsibility it assumes. Therefore, it is working to arm itself without looking at other considerations that would prevent it from obtaining the weapons it requires.

His royal highness again affirmed the kingdom's determination to obtain the weapons it needs from any quarter which is prepared to meet the kingdom's demands and which has the kind of weapons we need.

His royal highness has denied that any dialogue took place with any that aimed at restricting our armament requirements. He said that the kingdom can obtain whatever it wants and would not allow any party to prevent us from obtaining our requirements, because we are more aware than others of what our needs are and because we shall not allow anyone to restrict our request for arms or other things, regardless of circumstances, causes or changes. The minister of defense and aviation stressed that we in the kingdom respect our international commitments and act with the full realization of the circumstances around us. His royal highness called on all people to deal with us on the same basis.

He said that the kingdom's efforts to secure appropriate weapons in the appropriate way are continuing. His royal highness added: We are only asking our friends to understand our need and to respond to our demands without linking them to any considerations which could obstruct trade deals that are not related to major defense issues. His royal highness added that the kingdom's armament policies were based on its natural needs for security and stability and on the kingdom's need to perform its national duty within the framework of its commitment to the nation's causes. His royal highness reaffirmed that our country only asked for the arms which it believed would provide protection and enabled it to always be at the responsible level.

In conclusion, his royal highness said that the American Administration did not inform the kingdom of anything other than what they had both agreed upon in advance. He asserted that the kingdom would buy the weapons and that it would obtain the weapons without any conditions and without any undertakings.

MOROCCO'S KING HASSAN VISITS SAUDI ARABIA 27 AUG

Afternoon Arrival

LD271206 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1145 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Jidda, 27 Aug (SPA)--King Hassan II of Morocco arrived in Jidda at 1400 this afternoon on a brief visit to the kingdom during which he will perform a minor pilgrimage. At the airport the Moroccan king was welcomed by minister of the interior, Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and by Mecca's deputy governor, Prince Sa'ud ibn 'Abd al-Muhsin.

Evening Departure

GF271927 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] King Hassan II of Morocco and the delegation accompanying him left Jidda this evening following a short visit to the kingdom. The king was seen off at the airport by Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the interior minister; Prince Sa'ud ibn 'Abd al-Muhsin, deputy amir of the Mecca region; Ahmad 'Abd al-Wahhab, chief of royal protocol; and a number of officials.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS--Jidda, 25 Aug (SPA)--Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Thanyan, under-secretary at the Foreign Ministry, today received separately Mr. Richard Murphy, the U.S. ambassador-designate to the kingdom and Mr. Isonfir Simon, the Rwanda non-resident ambassador-designate to the kingdom. The two ambassadors-designates handed over copies of their credentials to Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Thanyan prior to their submission to HM King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. Shaykh al-Thanyan also received today the Jordanian ambassador to the kingdom, Mr. Tharwat at-Talhuni. They discussed bilateral relations and means of further promoting them. [Text] [Riyadh SPA in English 1910 GMT 25 Aug 81 LD]

ISRAEL'S SHAKON HOLDS MEETINGS, DEPARTS 27 AUG

Joint Committee Meeting

NC271410 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1240 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Alexandria, 27 Aug (MENA)--The joint Egyptian-Israeli committee held its first session at the ministerial level this morning at the Cabinet headquarters in Alexandria to discuss arrangements for the final phase of the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai and the transfer of installations to the Egyptian administration in April. At today's discussions, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali and Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Sa'd Mur.ada represented the Egyptian side and Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and Israeli Ambassador in Cairo Moshe Sasson represented the Israeli side.

After the 2-hour meeting Sharon said that the joint committee today discussed the questions relating to the implementation of the second phase of the peace agreement between Egypt and Israel. He said that the committee also discussed the questions relating to the normalization in Sinai and that it was agreed to set up subcommittees to discuss specific subjects.

He said that the transport and civil aviation committee will meet in Israel on 13 September, the tourism committee will meet in Cairo on 20 September, the police committee on 23 September in Cairo and the joint military committee on 20 September in Cairo.

Sharon added that regulating the military questions will be done through the joint military committee, while the civil subjects will be coordinated through the foreign ministers. He said that the higer joint committee will meet at the ministerial level in Israel in the second half of October.

Sharon added: Today's discussions were constructive and excellent. We have reached results and decisions in respect of various subjects that were discussed.

Asked about the situation regarding the settlements in Sinai, Sharon said that these were agreed upon in Camp David while arrangements for their transfer will be dealt with by the appropriate committees in accordance with the Egyptian and Israeli Governments' decisions.

Asked about the equipment and installations at the two airports which Israel will vacate, Sharon said: We will remove the equipment but the roads and fixed installations will be transferred to the Egyptian Government.

To another question about the extent of implementing the agreement and the Egyptians' commitment to use whatever they take over for nonmilitary purposes, Sharon said: We believe that the two countries are sincerely implementing the provisions of the agreement and consider these the most important achievement, and we are working for continuity of a lasting peace process.

Asked whether the Israelis living in the settlements will be allowed to work there after transferring the settlements to the Egyptian administration, Sharon referred the question to Dr Butrus Ghali and said that such questions will be discussed by the appropriate committees that have been formed.

Abu Ghazalah Meeting

NC271652 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1615 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Alexandria, 27 Aug (MENA)--Minister of Defense and War Production Lt Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah met with Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon this afternoon. A number of Egyptian and Israeli military experts attended the meeting.

Following the 90-minute meeting Abu Ghazalah said discussions dealt with the forthcoming steps for the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, adding that agreement has been reached on everything.

Concerning the Israeli withdrawal, Abu Ghazalah said that the Egyptian-Israeli military commission will meet in Al-'Arish on 20 September, that the withdrawal will be scrupulously implemented in accordance with the timetable laid for this purpose, that the Israeli forces will withdraw from Sinai by April next year, and that there are no problems regarding this matter.

Regarding Israel's handing over of the installations and airfields in Sinai, Abu Ghazalah said that these will be handed over to the Egyptian administration in accordance with the agreement reached yesterday between the two sides. He added that Sharon is ready to help and to facilitate everything.

Concerning the arrival of the multinational peacekeeping forces in Sinai, Abu Ghazalah said these forces will arrive at their positions 1 month before the Israeli withdrawal.

Sharon said that he was happy to visit Egypt as a member of the delegation that accompanied Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin on his visit to Egypt. He said: I believe that the Egyptian-Israeli talks have been fruitful. We believe in peace and in President as-Sadat's statement that the October war is the last war, and this is what will happen. He added: I believe we will work together for peace, which is very important for Egypt, Israel and other peoples.

Sharon left Alexandria for home this evening following the conclusion of these talks. He was seen off at the An-Nuzhah Airport by Lt Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah.

'SOURCE' SAYS SINAI SETTLEMENTS TO BE EVACUATED

NC271413 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1310 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Alexandria, 27 Aug (MENA)--A responsible source of the Egyptian experts participating in the joint Egyptian-Israeli committee said today that all the remaining Israeli settlements in Sinai will be evacuated. He said that Egypt will receive these settlements to establish new societies and that Egypt is ready to buy any equipment the Israelis offer for sale.

ABU GHAZALAH SAYS USSR INSTIGATED LIBYA-U.S. CLASH

NC280940 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0850 GMT 28 Aug 81

[Text] Cairo, 28 Aug (MENA)--Egyptian Defense and War Production Minister Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah has stated that he believes that it was the Soviet Union which instigated Libyan Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to order his aircraft to intercept the U.S. planes during the maneuvers they were carrying out over the Mediterranean. In a statement broadcast by London radio today, the Egyptian defense minister said he was convinced that the Soviet Union seeks an excuse to increase its interference in Libya and that he believed that one of the consequences of the downing of the two Libyan planes will be the dispatch of more Soviet and Cuban advisers to Libya.

OCTOBER SEES U.S. CLASH WITH LIBYA AS 'DETERRENCE'

PM270918 Cairo OCTOBER in Arabic 23 Aug 81 pp 10-13

[Anis Mansur article: "Lesson One Is Over"]

[Excerpts] A few years ago Al-Qadhdhafi declared that [Libyan] territorial waters must be extended. He did not expect anybody to argue with him or that theworld might argue with him--rather, that it would agree with him. All countries have land, sea and air borders which are agreed upon with regard to matters such as navigation, fishing and flying, as well as the extraction of energy.

All world problems revolve around borders and throughout history there has been war over borders. Therefore, [Al-Qadhdhafi believed] the question of boundaries, borders and barriers must be reviewed. Without waiting for anybody Al-Qadhdhafi declared that his international borders must extend as far as he wishes. During the U.S. election campaign he sent telegrams to Carter and Reagan in which he said in effect that maneuvers by the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean take place in the heart of Libyan waters and skies; that is, the maneuvers constitute aggression against Libya about which it cannot remain silent.

In 1973 a Libyan aircraft opened fire on a U.S. aircraft, and the same thing happend again last year and now a few days ago.

The U.S. reply to the Libyan aggression was evidence that the U.S. Administration has changed and that remaining silent toward Libya would encourage other countries. The downing of the two planes was not meant for Libya alone but for other countries as well; and also the Soviet Union, which supports Libya.

The Americans are more apprehensive than anybody else about what happened recently. The Middle East is a region of quicksands, undefinable borders and many faces. The Americans have a long history of international crises which began with minor problems and led to violent confrontations: the Berlin crisis, the Korean war, the Chinese intervention in Korea, the Gulf of Tonkin which dragged the United States into the Vietnam war, the Hungarian crisis, the tripartite aggression against Egypt, the Cuban missile crisis and others.

Therefore, the Americans wonder: Was it not possible to overlook the Libyan folly? It would have been possible, but is it possible what happened in Iran, Afghanistan and elsewhere?

Was this incident a surprise? It was not a surprise to anybody; neither to Libya nor to the United States. President as-Sadat and President Reagan have discussed the possibility of such an incident taking place. The two presidents discussed what is happening in Libya, the communist infiltration and Soviet "containment" of many countries, as well as the U.S. reluctance to intervene in order to protects its interests in the area.

What happened recently could only mean one thing: U.S. "deterrence" of Libya. Deterrence means intimidating Libya so as not to get involved in other incidents that might cost it greater losses. This is the limited deterrence that the United States has often used since the cold war. But there is also "strategic deterrence"; that is, intimidating Russia so that the two countries will not get involved in a losing confrontation for both superpowers. This is what the two countries have been anxious to avoid since the political vacuum created by Nazism in Europe.

Has this unequal air battle between Libya and the United States ended at this point? Has it ended because the United States so declared? Has the first and last lesson which the United States has taught to Libya and others ended?

Last month Al-Qadhdhafi declared that if U.S. intelligence is still plotting to assassinate him he will assassinate the U.S. president and other leaders and that he will destroy U.S. interests everywhere. The Libyan leader is incapable of carrying out such threats.

Our experience with the Libyan leaders confirms that he can do nothing more than talk. If this is his case with us what can he do to the United States?

No confrontation will take place between the Soviets and the Americans because of Libya or its foolishness. The Libyan leader will try to incite Russia against the United States and will ask it to sever its relations with it or else the Libyan leader will be forced to reconsider his calculations with the Soviets or "to have a pause with the friend." Certainly he can do nothing of this either.

The Libyan leader will ask--as he did yesterday--all the Arabs to condemn the U.S. aggression against Libyan airspace. What if the Arabs do so, and what if they hold a new and expanded summit to denounce the "new" U.S. aggression against Libyan security and airspace. The answer to these and other questions will be at the next summit meeting in Tripoli. Certainly, the questions will be many, the answers few and the understanding much less.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 442

JN271631 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1610 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Aug (INA)--Our armed forces have killed 39 Iranians and destroyed 2 infantry positions, 5 tanks, 5 vehicles, 3 guns and other materiel. Communique No 442 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command put our losses at 10 martyrs and 3 tanks, 3 vehicles and 3 mortars damaged. The text of the communique follows:

Communique No 442 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors, with the following results:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. An enemy concentration was sighted opposite our positions in the Gilan-e Gharb region. Our forces pounded it, forcing it to retreat after sustaining 11 dead and 1 vehicle carrying soldiers destroyed.
B. One of our forward units pounded an enemy concentration in the Sumar area, killing 11.
C. Nine killed and three stockpiles of hardware and one observation post destroyed in the Dezful area.
D. A concentration of enemy armor was sighted opposite our units in the Shush area. Our units pounded the concentration with various types of weapons, killing five and destroying five tanks and one vehicle.
E. Two killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
F. One infantry position, two vehicles, two guns and two stockpiles of hardware destroyed in the Abadan area.
G. One infantry position, one vehicle carrying guards of charlatan Khomeyni, one gun and one excavator destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.
H. One killed in the Mehran area.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 39 killed and 2 infantry positions, 5 tanks, 5 vehicles, 3 guns, 1 excavator, 7 stockpiles of hardware and 1 observation post destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 10 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Three tanks, three vehicles and three mortars damaged.
C. This morning and in the afternoon, the Persian enemy shelled Basra with heavy artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 27 August 1981

HAMMADI MARKS FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF IRANIAN WAR

JN261026 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 26 Aug 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi has stated that the 1-year old war with Iran has revealed a number of truths with regard to Iraq, foremost of which is Iraq's solid international position and the vigor of its political machinery that determines its Arab and international relations.

In a statement to INA on the occasion of the first anniversary of the outbreak of the racist Iranian war against Iraq on 4 September 1980, Dr Hammadi said that during the war Iraq emerged active in its international relations and well balanced in adopting reasonable stands and in effectively addressing world public opinion and securing the requisites of war as well as those necessary for development in daily life.

Dr Hammadi added that Iraq's political move has fully explained Iraq's stands before world public opinion and the events that led to the outbreak of the war. This, Dr Hammadi said, made world public opinion completely understand the true expansionist course of Iran and its ceaseless endeavors to achieve regional expansion in the border area, including the Shatt al-'Arab region.

He added that Iraq's efforts to explain its policy and stands have contributed effectively to world understanding of these stands, a matter which reflects Iraq's relations with these countries.

Further Details

JN261205 Baghdad INA in English 1130 GMT 26 Aug 81

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Aug (INA)--Iraq's Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi warned against an Iranian attempt to block navigation in the Strait of Hormuz and the Arab Gulf because of the desperate situation facing the Iranian regime now.

Talking to IRAQI NEWS AGENCY (INA) on the first anniversary of the Iranian aggression on Iraq, September 4, Dr Hammadi said the Iranian regime threatened at the start of war to block the Strait of Hormuz but failed to do so because of the world pressure. He added that the Iranian regime seemed to be thinking of resorting to that weapon again under the desperate situation facing the regime now. Such an aggressive act will have an accelerating repercussion.

Speaking on the U.S. stand toward the Iraq-Iran war, Dr Hammadi said the U.S. has announced since the start of war its neutrality, but we know that the colonialist countries don't want the war to come to an end and Iraq's regaining its rights. Besides that we have come to know through several occasions of information which indicated the leakage of U.S. equipment and spare parts to the Iranian regime.

Following Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i's assumption to the presidency, Dr Hammadi said three matters became evident in Iran: the negative stand towards the non-aligned peace mission, the armament relations with the Zionist enemy through a third party and the possible blockage of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz.

Dr Hammadi said the war has made clear several positive affairs concerning Iraq, at the forefront, the soundness of Iraq's internal situation and the vitality of its political system in charge of Iraq's Arab and international relations. Iraq has emerged through this year as a youthful country active in its international relations, its reasonable stands and balanced attitudes and capable of addressing the international public opinion, Dr Hammadi pointed out. Iraq's political action was able to explain to the world public opinion the reasons which led to the war and submitted a true vision of the Persian expansionist policy, he said.

AZIZ ON NUCLEAR COOPERATION, GULF WAR, KURDS

PM261449 Paris LE MONDE in French 22 Aug 81 pp 1, 3

[Eric Rouleau undated interview in Paris with Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz: "Paris and Baghdad To Develop Cooperation, Including in Nuclear Field"]

[Text] Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz's visit to Paris ended Thursday evening, 20 August, in a manner considered satisfactory by both countries, which have decided to intensify their cooperation in all fields, including the nuclear field, as stated in the communique released by the Hotel Matignon [prime minister's office].

During his visit the Iraqi leader was received by Mr Mitterrand, Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy, External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson, Minister of State for Foreign Trade Michel Jobert, Minister of State for Planning Michel Rocard, Minister of State for Research Jean-Pierre Chevenement, Education Minister Alain Savary, Defense Minister Charles Hernu and chairman of the Socialist group in the National Assembly Pierre Joxe. Socialist Party First Secretary Lionel Jospin apologized for his absence from Paris.

Mr Jobert will visit Baghdad 3-4 October to attend the meeting of the French-Iraqi joint committee and Tariq 'Aziz was keen to stress that "Mr Mitterrand and all the French leaders will be welcomed as friends in Iraq when ever they wish."

Tariq 'Aziz was beaming: "My mission to Paris has been crowned with success," he repeated during a lengthy interview which he granted to us. The Iraqi deputy prime minister explained that he was instructed by President Saddam Husayn to "establish contact with the members of the new French leadership team, to heed them carefully, to present Baghdad's viewpoints to them and to establish personal ties with them."

He was not disappointed--far from it. In less than 48 hours from 19 through 20 August he had lengthy meetings with the head of state and with "all important members of the new administration."

Tariq 'Aziz, loyal and trusted companion of Saddam Husayn, added that all his French interlocutors gave him "a friendly welcome," assuring him of their desire "to pursue and to develop bilateral relations in all--and I mean all--fields." President Mitterrand, "influenced by the history of the civilizations," emphasized cultural exchanges. Others talked to him about France's willingness to take part in the relization of various economic projects.

The Iraqi deputy prime minister invoked "military security" when discussing his talks with the defense minister. He confirmed that Mr Hernu is willing to increase arms sales to the Ba'thist government. He seemed surprised when reminded that the Socialist government is in principle not in favor of signing new contracts in this field. "I have never heard anything of the kind," he said, pointing out in turn that "Iraq's sources of supplies are very diversified and France is only one of our very numerous suppliers."

[Question] Have you not been too dependent on France since the USSR cut off its arms supplies?

[Answer] I cannot say anything about this except that our relations with the Soviets are tending to improve, despite their neutral stance on our armed conflict with Iran.

Mr Tariq 'Aziz was equally discreet about the reconstruction of the Tammuz nuclear power-plant destroyed by Israeli aircraft 7 June. He merely asserted that an "agreement in principle" has been reached. "France will supply Iraq, as in the past, with the means of developing its nuclear technology purposes."

[Question] Will you be taking delivery of highly enriched uranium capable of being used for manufacturing nuclear bombs or less proliferative, so called "caramel" fuel?

[Answer] In this field, as in others, we limited ourselves to general points. Our two countries' experts will deal with preparing the arrangements for our cooperation.

[Question] Do you not believe that President Saddam Husayn has posed perhaps an insurmountable obstacle to such cooperation by stating recently that the Arabs should equip themselves with a nuclear weapon?

[Answer] Definitely not. Mr Saddam Husayn was speaking as a politician. What he meant was this: If the foreign powers really want to accelerate the peace process they should restore the balance of forces by supplying the Arab countries with nuclear bombs that would counterbalance the ones that Israel already possesses. Having said that, France is in a good position to realize that our nuclear program is exclusively peaceful and it has the means to ensure that it remains so.

[Question] What would happen if the Israelis destroyed the new Tammuz powerplant once it had been constructed?

[Answer] We would build a third and if necessary a fourth nuclear research center.

[Question] Have you complained during your talks with your French interlocutors about what the Arab press calls "pro-Israeli bias?"

[Answer] There have always been differences between France and Iraq as far as our assessment of the Arab-Israeli conflict is concerned, and our friendly dialogue on the subject will not be broken off because of this. The main thing which I noticed, mainly during my talks with President Mitterrand and Mr Cheysson, is the convergence of our views on a number of international problems concerning in particular the Third World and its relations with developed powers. This constitutes a big advantage for Iraq, which will host a summit meeting of nonaligned countries next year....

[Question] Do you hope that your war with Iran will have ended by then since it could well undermine your standing in the Third World?

[Answer] We can see no end to that war. Former President Bani-Sadr showed some inclination to support a peaceful solution but the present leaders of the Islamic Republic have continued to reject all good will missions, including the UN and Islamic conference missions as well as that from the nonaligned countries. And we have never managed to go beyond the stage of exploratory missions.

[Question] The Iranians feel certain that time is on their side and that the discontent of the Iraqi people in view of the sterility of the conflict and the high number of casualties--the figure of 20,000 killed has been mentioned--will in the end lead to your regime's collapse. What do you think of this?

[Answer] This is absurd. The Iraqi people support their government because they know that that war has been imposed by Iran and that it is strictly defensive. They are determined to protect their country's security and sovereignty. This does not mean that we deny that we are seeking solutions to the problems stemming from the conflict.

[Question] Many Western experts have been wondering about what they call the "phoney war" which you have been waging. They assert that you have not used the means which would have enabled you to win it rapidly. You have refrained, among other things, from bombing the strategic roads which are used to bring supplies into Iran and from destroying the oil pumping stations without which the Islamic Republic would become paralyzed.

[Answer] Our military strategy reflects our political objectives. We want neither to destroy Iran nor occupy it permanently because that country is a neighbor with which we will remain linked by goegraphical and historical bonds and common interests. Therefore, we are determined to avoid taking any irrevocable steps.

However, if we were to reach the conclusion that the Tehran leaders do not want any peaceful solution under any circumstances, we would not oppose the partitioning of the Islamic Republic into several states.

[Question] Despite the hopes you have pinned on them, do you not think that the Kurdish guerrillas have been marking time?

[Answer] I cannot understand why the Kurdish guerrillas have been unable to intensify their activities despite the comprehensive aid which we have been giving them in accordance with our commitments. And yet increasing anarchy and the weakening of the central government in Tehran should, in fact, facilitate their task. However, since I lack precise information, it could well be that I am mistaken and that the Kurds have some surprises in store for us....

[Question] Do you not believe that the Iranian regime could resist indefinitely any military interventions, however numerous?

[Answer] The Islamic leaders are unable to make any objective analyses and indulge in illusions. No country in the world is capable of waging war without having a strong government, allies in the international sphere, an economy in good shape, financial resources and arms supplies. The Islamic Republic possesses none of these advantages.

[Question] Do you infer from all this that the collapse of the Islamic Republic is imminent?

Mr Tariq 'Aziz hesitated before replying with a broad smile: "Logic should encourage us to reach such a conclusion, but we have learned from experience that logic does not apply to the Iranian situation...."

MINISTER SIGNS BRAZILIAN COOPERATION MINUTES

JN272132 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] The joint minutes on the second session of the joint Iraqi-Brazilian committee for trade, economic, technical and scientific cooperation were signed in Brasilia today. The minutes were signed by Hasan 'Ali, Revolution Command Council member and trade minister, for Iraq and by Ramiro Guerreiro, Brazilian foreign minister, for Brazil. The minutes include a number of recommendations which provide for promoting and diversifying trade exchange and for developing cooperation in the various economic sectors, particularly in the sectors of industry, oil, industrialization, irrigation, transport and communications, in addition to developing the scientific, cultural and technological cooperation between the two countries.

Following the signing ceremony, Hasan 'Ali held a press conference attended by representatives of the local and foreign news agencies and those of Brazilian radio and television. He touched on the outcome of the joint committee's meetings and the contents of the minutes. 'Ali praised the development achieved in trade and economic cooperation during the past years within the context of the 1977 economic and technical cooperation agreement. He reiterated Iraq's desire to develop trade between the two countries on direct bases and in accordance with long-range programs.

Hasan 'Ali then dealt with the treacherous Persian aggression against Iraq's sovereignty and the repercussions of this aggression on the Iraqi nuclear installations on 7 June 1981 and the existing coordination and cooperation between the Zionist entity and the Persian regime in intensifying aggression against Iraq. Hasan 'Ali then pointed out the Zionist arms supplies to the Persian regime. He said that Iraq is determined to continue its peaceful nuclear program for it is a method for achieving scientific and cultural development.

ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT REPORTED AGAINST AS-SADAT

JN270937 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 27 Aug 81 p 1

[Text] Western intelligence sources in Cairo report that last Monday, Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat escaped an assassination attempt while he was on his way to the Ismailia region to inspect certain military units there. The sources add that an ambush laid by some officers against the president's motorcade was discovered at the last minute when one of the participants in the operation informed the governor of Ismailia of the plan.

The governor in turn informed President as-Sadat who gave orders for the immediate dispatch of a military force by helicopter to the site of the ambush. This force clashed with the ambushers and nine soldiers were wounded. Three ambushers were killed and the rest were apprehended.

COMMENTARY CRITICIZES AS-SADAT, BEGIN TALKS

JN251712 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Aug 81

[Unattributed commentary: "On the Eve of As-Sadat--Begin Meeting, the Palestinians Have Said Their Word"]

[Excerpts] On the eve of Begin's departure for Alexandria and in light of the latest preparations to resume the autonomy talks, Israel admits that several fedayeen operations have taken place. The timing and quality of these operations emphasize to the Egyptian and Israeli sides that our folks inside the occupied land categorically reject autonomy talks and insist that only the Palestinian people have the right to determine the fate of their land and rights. Furthermore, these operations constitute a new refusal of the Israeli Government's so-called policy of leniency as well as another decisive refusal of the Zionist settlements.

Those meeting in Alexandria to discuss the future of the Palestinian people have no right to do so. In as much as the Israeli side has no right to discuss the Palestinians future because it is the invader and the occupier of the Palestinian land, the Egyptian side is also unauthorized to speak in the name of the Palestinians or to accept on their behalf any settlement that would only further entrench occupation and settlement and would further deprive the Palestinians of their rights.

Through their latest fedayeen operations, our people wanted to stress to Begin and to his defense minister, Sharon, that the talk about a new Israeli policy is an attempt to brighten the old Zionist objectives which, in reality, aim at further entrenching invasion, occupation and settlements.

The apparent problem between As-Sadat and Begin is their differences over defining an understanding of autonomy. The real problem remains that neither one wants to deal with realities, especially the fact that the Palestinian people are the only side capable of defining this understanding, which is based on recognizing the Palestinians' sovereignty in their land. Anything short of this remains a waste of effort.

KING HUSAYN ARRIVES IN PARIS FOR VISIT ON 26 AUG

For Paris and Amman coverage of the visit to France of Jordan's King Husayn, including a meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand, see the France section of the 27 August Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

VOL REPORTS GRENADE ATTACK ON SAUDI EMBASSY

NC280646 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 28 Aug 81

[Text] At 2230 yesterday a rocket fell on the consular office of the Saudi Embassy, causing material damage. An organization calling itself the "forces of the struggling line" [quwwat as-saff al-mujahid] claimed responsibility for this attack to protest Saudi Arabia's stand of supporting Iraq in its war against Iran.

More on Attack

NC272230 Paris AFP in English 2220 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Beirut, 27 Aug (AFP)--A rocket-propelled grenade was fired late last night [as received] at the Saudi Arabian Embassy in West Beirut, a Lebanese police source said. It caused only light damage, the source added.

The attack was claimed in a telephone call to the AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE office here by "the mojahedin fighters of the ranks".

The caller said the "mojahedin fighters" attacked the embassy as a "warning to Saudi Arabia, which perseveres in its hostile positions to the Iranian revolution".

He said the organization also opposed Saudi support for Iraq in its war against Iran. The "mojahedin fighters", which groups Iraqi opposition members who are pro-Iranian, has previously claimed responsibility for attacks against Iraqi interests in Beirut.

Several months ago it claimed responsibility for a rocket attack on the French Embassy in Lebanon to protest France's delivery [of] four Mirage jet fighters planes to Iraq.

AMAL, PLA, COMMUNISTS CLASH IN BEIRUT 27 AUG

NC271553 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] The armed clashes which began at about 1515 today on As-ad al-As'ad Street and in the Ghandur area in Ash-Shiyah in the southern suburb are continuing between the Amal movement on the one side and the Palestinian Liberation Army [PLA] and the communists on the other. Mortars, heavy and medium weapons, particularly DSHK's and RPG's are being used in these clashes.

Some shells fell on the contact axes in the area as well as an At-Tayyuni area near the Dar al-Kitab al-Lubnani [presumably the Lebanese library]. The commands and parties concerned are being contacted in order to halt the clashes. The Voice of Lebanon has been reporting at intervals the details of these clashes, the results of which are not yet known because of the intensity of the battles and heavy artillery exchanges.

ADF Intervenes

NC272024 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] The situation became calm in the southern suburbs at 2030 today when Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] patrols entered the As-ad al-As'ad Street and At-Tayyunah and took up positions in the areas of the clashes. A total of 10 people were wounded in these clashes. They were taken to the hospital for treatment.

ENVOYS RETURN FROM ARAB TOUR, MAKE STATEMENTS

NC271420 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Finance Minister Dr 'Ali al-Khalil returned to Beirut this morning after a tour which took him to the UAE, Qatar and Bahrain. Minister of State for the Affairs of the South and Evacuees Mahmud 'Ammar returned at the same time after a visit to Muscat, YAR and the PDRY. Speaking about he results of his tour, Minister al-Khalil said:

[Begin recording] I made this Arab tour to present a message from his excellency the president of the republic to his brothers in some fraternal Gulf states; namely, the UAE, Bahrain and Qatar. The message includes Lebanon's proposal calling for an emergency extraordinary Arab summit conference to discuss the situation in the south and the danger threatening it as a result of the Israeli acts of aggression, particularly the recent attacks.

The leaders have responded to Lebanon's wish and agreed in principle to convening an extraordinary summit conference to discuss the subject of the south. During my discussions with the senior officials, I emphasized Lebanon's adherence to an Arab solution to the crisis and the need for continued Lebanese-Syrian-Palestinian coordination as a basic step for any comprehensive Arab visualization and any unified Arab strategy. I also stressed the need for differentiating and discriminating between the task of the Arab followup committee--which is concerned with helping Lebanon and its legitimate authority in implementing the resolutions of the Arab summits--and the emergency summit conference which will be concerned with the situation in the south which is a pan-Arab concern and joint Arab responsibility.

We hope that this move by us will achieve the desired objective for the benefit of Lebanon, the Palestinian cause and joint Arab interests. I must extend my thanks to the officials in the fraternal Arab states I visited for the hospitality they have accorded me and for their response to our wishes as well as for expressing their complete readiness to bear the responsibility within a unified Arab framework. [end recording]

Minister 'Ammar also spoke about his impressions about his tour. He said: [Begin recording] As you are aware, my task involved three fraternal Arab states--the Sultanate of Oman, the Yemeni Arab Republic and the PDRY. My meetings with the leaders of these fraternal states were positive and really warm. I received from His Majesty Sultan Qabus every support and response to the Lebanese issue. Likewise, I found the same support and the same enthusiasm with the YAR president. Also in the PDRY, I felt that the officials there understand the sufferings and tragedy of Lebanon. I conveyed to the three leaders a message from his excellency the president of the republic. After they had read the message and the working paper, it was confirmed to me that the public opinion in these states tends toward helping Lebanon and supporting the call for convening a summit conference. Very frankly and very sincerely, I also sensed that they desire to consult with some fraternal Arab states in order to make the conference succeed. [end recording]

AL-ASAD RECEIVES JUNBLATT FOR LEBANON DISCUSSIONS

JN271712 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Damascus--At 1200 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party. Junblatt was accompanied by Tawfiq Sultan and Muhsin Dallul, members of the party leadership. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. An exchange of viewpoints was made on the various aspects of the situation in fraternal Lebanon and the stands of the various Lebanese sides. The talks also dealt with Lebanon's accord and the problems Lebanon is facing.

AL-KASM PLEDGES CONTINUED PRESENCE IN LEBANON

PM261515 Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 23 Aug 81 pp 1, 11

[Speech by Syrian Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm at 'Abbas ibn Farnas Military Training Camp for University Students in Dumayr on 22 August]

[Excerpts] Brothers, comrades: At a time when you are receiving military training and preparing yourselves to be the scientists and soldiers of the future, our nation and our people are the target of a vicious onslaught which could be the most intensive onslaught we have known in past years. For many months the U.S. Administration has been preparing to deal a hard blow to the bastion of steadfastness and confrontation and to the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party.

Brothers, if the onslaught has escalated recently, this is nothing new in the policy of U.S.-Zionist colonialism. U.S. imperialism has been openly hostile to the Arabs for more than 30 years and has encouraged world Zionism to establish its headquarters in part of our homeland. Today it is daily supporting it with arms and funds.

Zionism is not satisfied with Palestine, but wants Syria and Lebanon; it wants Jordan and Egypt; it wants a greater Israel from the Nile to Euphrates. This is the Israeli policy and the U.S. policy. We in Syria publicly declare that we absolutely do not differentiate between Zionism and the U.S. policy.

If some people think that they can toe America's line and that they can understand it, they are either misleading others or being misled, because the only U.S. policy in this area is aggression and support for Zionism, as well as murder, crime and piracy.

It has committed an aggression against sisterly Libya, the revolutionary and pro-unity Libya. Its planes are flown by American Israelis, who have attacked the camps of our Palestinian brothers in Lebanon and Lebanese towns. They have flexed their muscles against Syria, made threats and served warnings on it. They were beaten off. They will find in Syria only a steadfast people, the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party and the leader of Syria's national march--struggler Hafiz al-Asad.

Brothers, comrades; the conspiracy against Syria is not only military; it is also economic, political and social. When they found that we are ready to fight the military battle regardless of the cost in blood and life, they manipulated their agents inside. They failed, and therefore they initiated another conspiracy--an economic one. They did not realize that the Syrian people are prepared to make all kinds of sacrifices in order that peace may prevail and to resist every aggression. Yes, they have plotted an economic conspiracy as an attempt to halt construction and progress. But the government, on the instructions of the comrade leader and according to the party resolutions, took effective economic measures--which you all know about--in the fields of agriculture, industry, production and services.

We can tell them: You have also failed in your economic conspiracy. Not satisfied with this, brothers, they manipulated their agents in Lebanon, and Israeli attacks on Lebanon recurred. They tried to decide for us where we ought to be.

We have gone to Lebanon by the will of the Syrian and Lebanese people: We have gone by the will of the Arab people. We shall remain there by the will of our people and we will not get out of Lebanon as long as it is threatened and Syrian security, Arab security and the security of the Lebanese people are threatened.

We are there in order to protect the Lebanese people, the Syrian people and the Arab nation. We will not allow Israel and its agents to implement any conspiracy, regardless of the cost and of sacrifices. We will remain in order to protect Lebanon's security and we will stand against any aggression. We will protect Lebanese territory because Lebanon is an indivisible part of the Arab nation.

Brothers and comrades, our battle is long and arduous. It will continue as long as U.S. imperialism has any connection with Arab land, or Arab sea, or Arab sky. This area will not calm down until the United States leaves the three Arab seas: the Mediterranean Sea, the Red Sea--which is an Arab sea--and the Arabian Sea. This area will never be calm as long as U.S. imperialism has its bases and agents.

The battle, as I said, is not only military. The better the military qualifications you gain, the better able we will be to fight it with you and through you, so that we can tell the Arab nation that the Syrian Arab people will remain steadfast and the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party will remain the hope of the people and that leader President Hafiz al-Asad will always lead them to victory. Thank you.

BA'TH MEMO ON U.S. 'AGGRESSION' AGAINST LIBYA

JN271659 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command has addressed a memorandum to the friendly political parties and forces explaining the dimensions of the recent U.S. imperialist onslaught against the Arab nation.

The memorandum stressed that out of the firmly entrenched relations between our two parties and peoples, which are based on joint struggle, we decided to brief you on the latest developments in the Arab region, which is being exposed to a wanton imperialist-Zionist-reactionary onslaught whose last link was the criminal aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah when U.S. 6th Fleet forces intercepted and downed two Libyan Air Force aircraft while they conducting an ordinary reconnaissance mission in Libyan airspace. This aggression was premeditated, as confirmed by U.S. President Reagan's statements and as disclosed by the U.S. magazine NEWSWEEK.

The aim of this aggression is to weaken the Libyan Arab people's steadfastness, to destroy their accomplishments and to prevent them from taking part in the just struggle being waged by the Arab masses against their imperialist, Zionist and reactionary enemies.

The memorandum added: The serious manner in which we view this aggression stems from our understanding of the nature of the hostile schemes of imperialism, Zionism and reaction. The Camp David plot was one of the main links in these schemes, which aims at imposing capitulation on the Arabs and at returning imperialist domination of the Arab region.

However, Syria's steadfastness, in cooperation with the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front's forces and in alliance with the Arab masses, has foiled these schemes, despite the various forms of plotting to which Syria was exposed by the Camp David partners. All these attempts failed and achieved no results.

The National Command memorandum said: The aggression against Libya by U.S. imperialism is the beginning and starting point for further expected aggressions against other Arab countries, and particularly Syria, which plays a basic and effective role in foiling the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary designs against the Arab nation. However, this attempt and any new attempts will be doomed to failure because they will be confronted by the Arab masses' will and steadfastness. We are quite confident that the Arab masses, led by their progressive national and pan-Arab forces and in alliance and cooperation with all world forces of progress, liberation and socialism, are able to confront and foil this new hostile policy of U.S. imperialism.

The memorandum called on the friendly political parties and forces to adopt the various measures which express their rejection, denunciation and condemnation of this aggression, as well as their complete solidarity with the Arab people's struggle in the Libyan Jamahiriyah and Arab Syria, considering this struggle as an inseparable part of the Arab nation's struggle to achieve its objectives by liberating its occupied lands, restoring its usurped rights and establishing the unified socialist Arab society.

ATH-THAWRAH CALLS FOR STRIKING AT U.S. INTERESTS

JN250800 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 25 Aug 81

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Under the headline "Direct U.S. Aggression Calls for Striking at Imperialist Interests," ATH-THAWRAH says: Traitor As-Sadat and terrorist Begin are due to hold their 11th meeting in Alexandria today to implement their conspiracies against the Arab nation and to realize the imperialist-Zionist strategy. Without doubt new attacks on the Arab nation will follow these talks. There will be absolutely no exception in this case. Remember the Israeli massacres of the Palestinians and Lebanese and the war of ruination and destruction that followed the As-Sadat-Begin talks in Sharm ash-Shaykh on 4 June 1981. It has been established that both are implementing the Camp David strategy against the Arab nation. As-Sadat is fully committed to his alliance with Israel, thus abandoning the Arab defense treaties. As-Sadat has repeatedly declared his support for the Israeli stand against Syria, for the Israeli war against the Palestinians and, last but not least, for U.S. acts of aggression against fraternal Libya. As-Sadat is also providing every facility to the Israelis in Egypt to reconnoiter the Libyan borders preparatory to launching joint aggression against Libya, at a time when the whole world has condemned the U.S. aggression against Libya.

Zionism has managed to create a state of hostility in the Arab homeland represented by some agent Arab regimes in addition to Israel. Now the United States is launching direct aggression with soldiers and weapons against the Arab nation, whereas imperialist-Zionist aggression in the past was launched by Israel and by agent Arab regimes using U.S. financial and military aid and political cover. This new state and the direct U.S. threat against the Arab nation would never have materialized had the Arab reply been compatible with the new U.S. aggression which escalated with the emergence of the Zionist entity. Events have proved that the aggression has expanded to all Arab regions without exception. Every inch of Arab land is menaced by the U.S.-Zionist aggression, and the only stand is to confront this aggression and to strike at U.S. interests everywhere, particularly in the Arab homeland.

REPORTAGE, COMMENTARY ON ALEXANDRIA SUMMIT

Begin, As-Sadat Discuss Libya

TA270951 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 27 Aug 81 pp 1, 6

[Report from Alexandria by correspondent Arye Tzimuqi]

[Excerpt] A series of strategic issues was raised yesterday at the concluding talk between Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Egyptian President as-Sadat in Alexandria. The two leaders exchanged estimates on the Libyan threat. As-Sadat pointed out the danger to Egypt and its neighbors emanating from Libyan strongman Al-Qadhdhafi "who is not always in control of himself." The two agreed in commending the firmness the United States had shown toward Al-Qadhdhafi in downing the two Libyan aircraft last week.

Begin pointed to the gravity with which Israel views the continued presence of the Syrian missiles in Lebanon despite promises by the U.S. Administration that they will be removed. He also noted that a terrorist attempt to harm Israel from Jordanian soil is not to be dismissed.

Sharon's Talks in Alexandria

TA271608 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Report by political correspondent Gad Becker from Alexandria on the evening newsreel--recorded]

[Text] [Becker] After the Israeli-Egyptian working session, the Israeli participants said that all issues had been positively agreed upon, and that the details would be worked out in committees for transportation, civil aviation, tourism, communications and police, which will all meet in the course of the next month, some in Israel and some in Egypt. The discussions pertain to issues of normalization and additional practical problems linked directly to the evacuation of Sinai and the reinstatement of the international frontier. The points at issue are the setting up of three border crossing points, Israeli civilian flights from the 'Eziyon field in Elat, and the subject of tourism in the Red Sea after the evacuation. One prominent subject is the Israeli assets in the Rafah approaches and the fate of the Israeli houses and buildings there. In this respect, here is what Minister Sharon had to say:

[Sharon--in English] The details will be worked out by the committees, but it goes along the decisions of the Government of Israel and the Government of Egypt.

[Becker translates the above into Hebrew and adds] Head of the Egyptian military committee, Adm Hamdi (Muhsayn) said that as far as Egypt was concerned, Israel could take everything it wanted from the Rafah approaches. Egypt, (Muhsayn) said, plans to repopulate the area. As for the issue of the airfields, the equipment will be removed, the infrastructure will remain, as had been agreed upon in the Camp David agreements, the defense minister said today. Are you concerned about Egyptian violations of the agreement in Sinai? Mr Sharon was asked by a journalist on the spot.

[Sharon--in English] We believe that both countries, Israel and Egypt, regard the peace as the most important achievement that we had. We believe that the peace will last and we approach all these questions in a frank way and mutual belief and understanding, that both countries are going to proceed with the peace, I'd say forever, if one can use this term.

[Becker translates the above and continues] At today's session, a further meeting was agreed upon at government level, in the second half of October in order to examine the process and finalize points. For the time being, the Israeli side came out satisfied, let us wait and see how things will work out in the field.

Sinai Installations Decision

TA272010 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Excerpt] Israel will hand over most of the installations it set up in southern Sinai to the Egyptians in exchange for monetary compensation. Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali decided this today in Alexandria. Our correspondent in Alexandria Ehud Ya'air reports that most transferrable installations in the Yamit Strip will be dismantled and transferred to Israeli territory before the evacuation. The defense minister returned to Israel this evening after concluding in Alexandria a detailed timetable for continuing the negotiations on the normalization and on the arrangements for the evacuation of the Sinai. Four committee meetings that will take place next month in Israel and in Egypt will focus on cooperation between Israel and Egypt on various issues.

Further Details

TA280902 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 28 Aug 81 pp 1, 2

[Report by the military correspondent]

[Excerpt] Upon the implementation of the second phase of the withdrawal from the Sinai, within the framework of the peace treaty in April 1982, Israel will hand over to Egypt all the infrastructure and installations in the military bases and civilian settlements in their entirety. The Egyptians expressed their willingness to pay for installations that will be left in civilian settlements and that would be of use to them.

Buildings and the infrastructure in military bases will be used for residential and administration purposes. Installations of an operational nature which cannot be disassembled will be destroyed. As was the case in the first phase of the evacuation of the Sinai, Israel will hand over the bases after they have been thoroughly cleaned.

The debris from the blown up installations will be completely removed. Communication facilities, early warning stations, intelligence installations and other permanent structures of a specific military nature will be disassembled and moved.

In the meeting in Alexandria yesterday between Minister Sharon and the Egyptian representatives it was decided that the Egyptians would also receive intact the infrastructure and buildings in the civilian settlements except for those that are to be disassembled and transferred to Israeli territory.

The supreme Israeli-Egyptian committee for the implementation of the second phase of the peace treaty between the two countries, headed by Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, will convene in Israel in the second half of October to closely follow the implementation of the decisions made in the committee's session in Alexandria yesterday.

Sinai Settlers Oppose Accord

TA280731 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 28 Aug 81

[Text] Our correspondent Yaron Enosh reports that settlements in the Sinai are strongly reacting to reports that Israel will hand over to Egypt intact all of the existing infrastructure. The movement for checking the retreat from Sinai is saying that by this decision Minister Ari'el Sharon proved his real intentions. According to them, the gesture of handing over the infrastructure intact is meant to prevent expected confrontations between the government and the settlers. [sentence as heard]

Our correspondent remarks that the protest stems from the fact that the infrastructure in Sinai was earmarked to serve a much larger number of settlers than those living in the region today. The movement for checking the retreat as well as the local movement in Yamit--the 'Oz Movement--also proclaimed that they would not allow any Egyptian to enter into the area before the final pullback.

The statement was made after it became known that Israel agreed in the Alexandria talks to allow Egyptian preparatory delegations to come to the Yamit district prior to the withdrawal.

'Ali: Sinai Open to Israelis

TA281057 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 28 Aug 81 p 1

[Report by the MA'ARIV team in Alexandria]

[Text] The Sharm ash-Shaykh area and the coastal strip along the Red Sea will be open to Israeli tourists who will travel by land from Elat or by air from Israel after the completion of the Israeli evacuation of the Sinai in April 1982. Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Kamal Hasan 'Ali promised this yesterday in a special interview with MA'ARIV.

General 'Ali who heads the Egyptian delegation handling the issues related to the normalization and the evacuation of the Sinai further disclosed that Israeli aircraft carrying tourists would be allowed to land both at the 'Ezyon airfield (which will become an international airport) and at the airport in Ofira.

During the interview 'Ali emphasized that a proper and orderly transfer of the tourism infrastructure in the area by Israel to Egypt would guarantee that tourist resorts in the area would continue to run normally after the evacuation.

In order to dispel any doubts regarding Egypt's intentions about its relations with Israel after April 1982, the Egyptian minister of foreign affairs unambiguously told MA'ARIV: "The normalization is an integral part of the peace process. The normalization process is currently developing and gathering momentum and, therefore, it will only be natural for it to strengthen and increase after 1982 and as time goes by."

The Egyptian minister of foreign affairs went on to say: "What we have achieved in the sphere of normalization with Israel has not yet been achieved between Egypt and many other countries."

Regarding the airfield in Etam near the Rafah approaches, the Egyptian deputy prime minister revealed to MA'ARIV that the airfield would, among other things, be of service to the multinational force which will be stationed in the Sinai after the evacuation. This airfield will also serve Egypt's public transportation needs but will not operate as an international airport.

Replying to a question, the Egyptian minister expressed the hope that Yamit would be handed over to Egypt "in good condition." He announced that Egypt would be ready to pay Israel for the installations and infrastructure that would remain in the area. As an example, he mentioned water pipes, the electricity system and houses.

Referring to his talks with Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, 'Ali said he had received the impression that Sharon was a man who openly says what he feels and "his mouth and heart are equal."

'Ali 'AL HAMISHMAR Interview

TA271444 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 27 Aug 81 pp 1, 2

[Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali interviewed by correspondent in Alexandria Smadar Peri on 26 August]

[Text] Question: Contrary on Israeli predictions, the PLO was specifically not mentioned in the talks as constituting an Egyptian demand with regard to the resumption of the autonomy talks. Why was that?

Answer: Egypt will continue to take action to create a possibility for having the PLO join the autonomy negotiations. Even if Israel is not prepared to recognize the existence of the PLO, Egypt will continue to work toward creating a possibility that it will be incorporated into the negotiations on the future of the terrorists, to reach a formulation that will be acceptable to all parties concerned.

Question: What about normalization?

Answer: For a whole year you have been complaining, through the embassies in Cairo and Israel, about delays in normalization. However, the very fact that these complaints had been filed and dealt with proves more than anything else that things are happening in this area, in other words, that there are relations and that these are normal relations.

Question: Yet Israeli expectations from the normalization have encountered a wall as well as a host of difficulties that cropped up in Cairo. It appears as though these difficulties are not accidental.

Answer: I agree with the Israeli contention that after the bombing of the Iraqi reactor and the bombing of Beirut there was a slowdown in normalization and both parties had to handle certain issues as if from square one. At the same time, I must point out that currently the relations between Israel and Egypt are better than those Egypt has with various Arab countries. In a few months you will notice that the level of the relations will have again been raised and it will no longer be a normal relationship, but fraternity as in a family.

Question: In other words, you are optimistic. Do you, in contrast with the image of yourself in Israel as being a hawk and one that voices harsh views concerning Israel, foresee a better framework of relations?

Answer: I am totally optimistic. What is important is that the negotiations continue.

Question: In the course of the As-Sadat-Begin talks, Prime Minister Begin launched another attack on you, in front of President as-Sadat, and you were presented as a troublemaker. Begin often derides you and uses your childhood name, "Peter." From a personal standpoint, how would you analyze your relations with the Israeli prime minister?

Answer: The fact of the matter is that I cannot describe this strange framework of relations. I do no know. As far as I am concerned, it is a mystery, perhaps it is part of the mystery of peace....

Begin Lists Achievements

TA271536 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 27 Aug 81 pp 1, 15

[Report by the MA'ARIV team in Alexandria]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Menahem Begin and President as-Sadat will inform President Reagan of their decision to resume the autonomy talks. Following the agreement reached at the 11th summit in Alexandria, both Jerusalem and Cairo are anticipating a U.S. Administration decision on its preparations for the resumption of the autonomy talks and are waiting for the U.S. representative to the talks to be named.

In consultations with the senior ministerial team that took part in the summit deliberations yesterday, Menahem Begin summed up the summit talks as having been extremely successful and of great future significance with respect to Israeli-Egyptian relations. The prime minister informed Ministers Sharon, Shamir and Burg of the achievements of the summit:

--An Egyptian commitment to pursue the peace process and deepen it even after the completion of the process of Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai in April 1982.

--An Egyptian willingness to resume at once the autonomy talks, while accelerating them, and a mutual readiness to review new ideas that will help the parties reach a framework agreement on the establishment of the autonomy.

Foreign Minister Shamir reported at that meeting that he had agreed with his counterpart, General 'Ali, that the autonomy talks would be resumed on 26 September [as published] in Egypt, at a meeting of the two countries' ministerial teams.

--Full normalization, beginning this October: At the meeting of the Foreign Ministry team (which included Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Director General David Kimche and the ministry's specialist on normalization and relations with Egypt, 'Oded 'Eran) with the Egyptian foreign minister, it was agreed that beginning the middle of September, the Israeli and Egyptian normalization teams would meet in an effort to accelerate the process in all the fields. One of the first topics the Egyptians plan to implement in the sphere of normalization is the development of cultural ties with Israel.

It was decided yesterday that Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir will depart for Egypt in October to discuss development of tourism between the two countries.

--A joint strategic view: Begin and As-Sadat reached a common view of the danger of Soviet expansionism in the Middle East, and particularly in the large military bases the Soviet Union is setting up in Libya. The implications of the dogfight over the Gulf of Sidra were also discussed, with the two leaders expressing support for the strong U.S. steps against the Libyan Air Force.

--Termination of hostile propaganda against Israel and its prime minister: The Egyptian president promised the prime minister that he would do his best to bring about a decline in the wave of hostile publications against Begin and the Israeli policy in the Egyptian press. At the same time, As-Sadat noted that there are some papers in Egypt that hold an opposition view and are against the administration. They criticize his peace policy with Israel. In the summit talks, As-Sadat also mentioned his difficulties in the Arab world in light of the objection to the peace process and his problems at home from muslim fanatics.

Harif Commentary

TA271550 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 27 Aug 81 p 5

[Yosef Harif commentary: "Promises and Explanations in Alexandria"]

[Text] Egypt's President Anwar as-Sadat tried yesterday at the joint news conference with Prime Minister Menahem Begin to minimize the differences of opinion between them and improve the gloomy atmosphere prevailing in the relations between the two countries 7 months before the conclusion of the Israeli pullback from Sinai. It is impossible to determine with certainty how President as-Sadat will this time handle all the promises he made in the course of his talks with the prime minister in Alexandria the day before yesterday. One thing is clear however: All his past pledges to the prime minister, with respect to normalization, have not been honored.

There is, of course, a desire to show those repeated promises materializing, but it is the sphere of normalization that give rise to doubts. As-Sadat is mentioning "difficulties" that are popping up from time to time--a hint perhaps of domestic difficulties on the part of peace opponents--in Egypt or the Arab world and he expects Israel to show patience.

He may be right in claiming that normalization is a process requiring tolerance and patience on the part of Israel, but we concur with what Foreign Minister Shamir said yesterday to his Egyptian counterpart 'Ali: "We can very well exist without trade with Egypt, without tourist exchanges or cultural relations with Egypt. But," Shamir stressed, "normalization is in the interest of peace, and its chief test."

But since the prime minister reassured us on his return from Egypt that he and his party had received a "very warm welcome," and that President as-Sadat had met him halfway both on autonomy and normalization, we have but to wait and see what the fate of the Egyptian president's new promises will be.

We said it was the explanations of President as-Sadat that give rise to doubts. An appropriate testimony to this is, perhaps, the explanation he offered only yesterday at the news conference in Alexandria. The autonomy talks were suspended, he explained, due to objective reasons; i.e. the Americans were busy with presidential elections and later the Israelis were busy with their own elections, for which reason all had to wait until the elections were over. Now, there are no longer any problems and the talks may resume.

However, any closer look at the record will reveal what really happened exactly a year ago: Egypt suddenly suspended the talks following instructions from President as-Sadat and As-Sadat instead suggested a tripartite Carter-Begin-As-Sadat summit meeting. This was the fifth time that the talks had been suspended by Egypt, and why were they suspended four times before, if there were no elections in Israel?

President Carter ultimately was forced to send his envoy Sol Linowitz to the region, and come up with a compromise formula for renewing the talks, in which it would be stipulated--to accomodate As-Sadat's idea--that a summit meeting would also take place on an agreed date. And when the resumption of the talks had already been agreed upon and Begin, by his own account, phoned Carter and As-Sadat, congratulating them on the agreement reached, Dr Butrus Ghali came out with an announcement that "Begin is wrong," this is no resumption of talks but merely "preparatory talks" for the resumption of autunomy negotiations in the future.

Begin was unable to hide his ire and he reac ed: "Dr Ghali's statement was absolutely unfounded. This is not the first time that Mr Ghali has tried, contrary to President as-Sadat's consent, by his steps and announcements to reverse issues or change agreed upon subjects."

It may not have been the first time that Ghali behaved thus, but eventually he always proved to have been right. The fact is that the autonomy talks have not been resumed to date.

It would be naive to assume that this was Ghali's private initiative. But why resort to assumptions, when we have clear statements? Dr Ghali said at that time: "I know it is said that the president is amenable to meeting you halfway. With all due respect, this is foolish. I did not do a thing or prevent a thing nor did I say a thing concealed from President as-Sadat!" Are any explanations necessary after such a candid "statement?"

As-Sadat explained to us yesterday that the autonomy talks had been suspended because of the elections in the United States and in Israel. If this had been indeed the reason, then it could have had a single explanation: As-Sadat suspended the talks because he hoped that at a "summit meeting" attended by the U.S. President, Israel would be pressed to acquiesce to the Egyptian positions that received almost full backing from the U.S. representative to the autonomy talks. Hence As-Sadat decided to wait until after the U.S. elections, so that the President, who wooed the Jewish vote, would no longer be thus shackled. When it became clear that his friend Carter was defeated and replaced by the pro-Israeli Reagan, As-Sadat was forced to wait until after the elections in Israel. As-Sadat was probably hoping for a victory by Shim'on Peres--and met an adverse fate again.

His talks in Washington taught As-Sadat that the United States has no clear policy yet ready and he was not sure that one could wait endlessly. Moreover, in 7 months Israel will have to conclude its pullback from Sinai and no excessive strain could be put on the relations with Begin. When As-Sadat realized how important the resumption of talks was to Begin, he responded to him "willingly."

Practically any explanation by As-Sadat for the resumption of the talks would have strengthened our assumption that As-Sadat is perhaps seriously attempting to come to terms with Israel on the autonomy issue. But the "explanations" he chose to give to convince us that there are "no problems" in everything pertaining to the resumption of the talks did not convince us.

ALGERIA

COMMENTARY VIEWS MOROCCO, SAHARA REFERENDUM

LD270844 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Aug 81

[Text] The Algerian news agency (APS), has commented on the work of the African implementation committee and said:

The African heads of state meeting in the 18th African summit conference have contributed to the achievements of peace and stability in the northwest section of the continent by confirming once again this morning the Saharan people's firm right to self-determination, be clarifying the procedures for the implementation of the referendum and, finally, by defining the (?various) methods of work. The members of the committee deliberated at length on the implementation of the self-determination referendum, the dispatch of a force to guarantee peace, the holding of talks between the parties to the conflict, the cease-fire and the setting up of an international administration. In general, they discussed in detail the coming task, which is [word indistinct].

This trust is necessary to the observers in Nairobi, especially because the Moroccan king has become accustomed to procrastination and vague interpretations to such an extent that he called on the implementation committee to supervise a referendum that he is organizing. The committee replied to this maneuver with the resolution published this morning to the effect that the referendum approved during the 18th summit conference could only be general, [word indistinct], free and a referendum for self-determination under the (?supervision) of two parties: Morocco and the Polisario Front, both of whom are called upon to negotiate a cease-fire.

However, it remains possible for the Kingdom of Morocco to carry out maneuvers which are based on the strategy of [word indistinct], ignorance of the clear truth which increasingly contradicts itself at the OAU level as regards the definition of the parties for the conflict. Faced with the collective will of both Africa and the Polisario Front, will King Hassan II demonstrate his usual obstinacy and increase the danger to peace and stability in northwest Africa, despite the weakness of Morocco itself before the [word indistinct] attacks?

APS added: Within the context of the OAU, all agree today that the king of Morocco, by rejecting several proposals for a peaceful settlement, has been the permanent obstacle and the sole person responsible for the failure of the [word indistinct] solutions. This spontaneous rejection has only resulted in the political isolation of the royalist regime. In contrast, during the meetings he noticed the political and diplomatic successes of the Saharan cause, these successes [words indistinct].

Thus, the king of Morocco alone shall bear the big responsibility before history and before Africa, whose heads of state shall not once again abandon [words indistinct] a settlement which is based on the respect of the Saharan people's right to self-determination. In the absence of a negotiated solution, the latter shall respond with the sole means at its disposal--weapons--in order to impose its will to live in freedom and dignity. On the other hand, Africa is there to see to the implementation of the OAU summit resolutions on the Western Sahara.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI RETURNS FROM WORKING VISITS 27 AUG

LD271247 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Excerpt] Today the leader [Al-Qadhdhafi] concluded a working visit to the PDRY, socialist Ethiopia, the UAE, Kuwait and the Syrian Arab Republic. On his arrival from Damascus at noon today, the leader was accorded an enthusiastic welcome by the masses at Tripoli International Airport.

JOINT LIBYA-PDRY-ETHIOPIA COMMUNIQUE ON ADEN TALKS

LD280255 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Joint communique issued on 27 August in Tripoli, Aden and Addis Ababa on the 16-19 August summit meeting held in Aden by Libya's Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the PDRY's 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and Ethiopia's Mengistu Haile Mariam]

[Text] Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, commander of the Great 1 September Revolution of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah [SPLAJ]; 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and prime minister of the PDRY; and Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] and the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] and commander of the revolutionary army of socialist Ethiopia, held a summit conference in Aden.

In an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding, the leaders of the three countries held expanded official talks covering relations of brotherhood and struggle among the three countries. They also reviewed political developments in the Arab, African and international arenas.

On reviewing the relations of brotherhood and struggle among their countries, the three leaders expressed their utmost pelasure at the high level of cooperation among the three states and affirmed the need to strengthen and develop it in all fields for the good of the common interests of their countries and in order to raise the material and spiritual levels of their peoples, strengthen the revolutionary cohesion of their three countries and advance several steps forward the heroic struggle against imperialism, Zionism, racism and reaction.

Out of their deep faith in the importance of developing and strengthening relations among the three countries and out of their realization of the need to unify their stands against imperialism, Zionism, reaction and racism and to bolster solidarity and cooperation in all fields, the leaders of the SPLAJ, the PDRY and socialist Ethiopia agreed to sign a treaty of friendship and cooperation among their three countries with a view to coordinating their relations in the various political, economic and other fields and to setp up a higher council of the leaders of the three countries and ministerial committees to follow up the implementation of the provisions of the treaty of friendship and cooperation.

A number of agreements were signed within the framework of developing economic and technical cooperation among the three countries.

During their stay, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Mengistu Haile Mariam acquainted themselves with some of the historic landmarks and economic and cultural achievements of the PDRY. They expressed their utmost admiration for the great accomplishment of the Yemeni people under the leadership of the YSP. They also expressed their appreciation for the efforts exerted by the workers of the PDRY to consolidate and develop these achievements and defend them.

The two sides--Libya and Ethiopia--condemned all the plots hatched by the imperialist and reactionary circles, denounced Oman's military provocations and aggression against the PDRY and declared their firm stand on the side of the Yemeni people and their support for their just struggle to safeguard their national sovereignty and build a new life.

The two sides--Libya and Ethiopia--supported the efforts exerted by the PDRY for the reunification of the two parts of Yemen by peaceful and democratic means. They praised the positive steps already taken in this regard. They affirmed that the realization of Yemeni unity constitutes an important factor for the realization of the ambitions and aspirations of the Yemeni people for development and progress and an effective factor in guaranteeing the stability and security of the region.

The two sides--Libya and the PDRY--praised the political, economic and social accomplishments of the Ethiopian revolution under the revolutionary leadership of Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the PMAC and of the COPWE and commander in chief of the revolutionary army of socialist Ethiopia. They also expressed their support for the sound policy pursued by socialist Ethiopia to rid itself of the repressive feudalist system. They affirmed their stand on the side of the Ethiopian people in their struggle to consolidate their revolution, safeguard their sovereignty and protect their territorial integrity and insure its safety. They condemned all the plots hatched by the imperialist and reactionary forces with a view to detracting from the revolutionary achievements of the Ethiopian people.

The Ethiopian and Yemeni sides expressed their deep appreciation for the achievements of the Great Al-Fatah Revolution in the political, economic, social and cultural spheres. They condemned the aggressive campaigns launched by the imperialist and reactionary circles which are aimed at obstructing and slandering the march of the Libyan people and their historic and revolutionary leadership. They announced their total support for the SPLAJ in its struggle to foil all imperialist, Zionist and reactionary conspiracies, especially those hatched by the defeatist regime in Egypt and its reactionary allies.

The three leaders condemned the aggressive policy purused by the United States against the progressive regimes and liberation forces in the world and its conspiracies to physically liquidate their leaders. The leaders strongly condemned the recently revealed U.S. plot on the life of the leader of the Great al-Fatah Revolution.

Reviewing the situations in the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf and the Indian Ocean, the three leaders expressed concern about the latest crucial developments in those areas brought about by the escalation by the imperialist circles' activities aimed at consolidating and expanding their influence in these areas in order to control their wealth and harm the sovereignty, independence, security and unity of the countries of the regions. The leaders of the three countries condemned the aggressive policy of U.S. imperialism manifested by the presence of military bases and facilities in Oman, Somalia, Egypt and Diego Garcia and by the intensification of the military posture in these regions. They also expressed their condemnation of the U.S. imperialist policy aimed at escalating tension in the regions and transforming them into huge warehouses for the products of the U.S. imperialist military monopolies.

The leaders of the three countries supported the efforts made to end the war between Iraq and Iran. They emphasized that the continuation of the war would severly harm the capabilities of Iraq and Iran, greatly endanger the security and stability of the region and give imperialism an opportunity to increase its military presence in the area.

The three leaders expressed their concern about [word indistinct] and the spread of U.S. fleets in the Mediterranean, the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean to frighten the peoples and countries of the regions and threaten their independence and security and world peace.

They supported the efforts made by the international community to make the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea and the Mediterranean regions zones of peace and security.

Reviewing the development of the situations in the Arab region, they reiterated their total rejection of the stable [Camp] David capitulatory agreements and all initiatives aimed at violating the established rights of the Palestinian people. They condemned the Israeli military attacks on the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples aimed at liquidating the Palestinian revolution and dividing Lebanon. They praised the period steadfastness of the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese National Movement. They condemned the United States for its unlimited imperialist support for the Zionist entity and for (?supplying) it with the latest military equipment to escalate the aggression against the Arab countries and peoples.

The leaders of the three countries stressed their total support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people, to establish an independent state on their territory and exercise their right to return to their homeland.

The leaders of the three countries stated their support for the struggle of the Lebanese people and their national movement for the unity, national independence, and Arabism of Lebanon.

They praised the heroic steadfastness of the Syrian people in confronting the imperialist and Zionist plans and repulsing the Zionist threats and U.S. provocations.

They praised the distinguished role played by the Confrontation and Steadfastness Front in the Arab struggle to confront the stable David capitulatory agreements.

In discussing the situation on the African Continent, they praised the proposals reached by the African summit held in Nairobi as a correct basis for facing developments on the continent. They reiterated their support for the proposals of the OAU made at the Nairobi summit concerning the dispute in the Horn of Africa and condemned the expansionist and imperialist U.S. conspiracies against the Ethiopian revolution and the unity of its territories--plots which are aimed at escalating tension in the region by establishing aggressive military bases in Somali.

The leaders of the three countries declared their support for the legitimate government in Chad under the leadership of Goukouni Oueddei and welcomed the (?establishment) of peace and stability in Chad. They praised the Libyan role in ending the bloodletting to which the Chadian people were exposed as a result of the activities of reactionary and imperialist conspirators and their lackeys in Chad. They also condemned the conspiracies aimed at dividing the Chadian people and obstructing their social progress.

They supported the struggle of the Saharan people, under the leadership of Polisario, for self-determination and called for direct negotiations between the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic and Morocco.

The three leaders saluted the heroic independence struggle of the Namibian people under the leadership of the SWAPO. They also condemned the attempts made by imperialism to divide and weaken Africa by instigating conflict over the South Africa/Namibia issue. They condemned the role played by the so-called contact group comprised of five Western states in obstructing the Security Council and the UN General Assembly, especially Security Council resolution [figure indistinct] (?condemning) the racist occupation of Namibia.

They appealed to the next special session of the UN General Assembly on Namibia to take active steps to ensure the speedy implementation of the UN proposals and to impose sanctions on the racist regime in South Africa.

They condemned the racist repressive policy of the South African regime, its repeated military attacks on Angola, Mozambique and the other independent states in the region and its continued occupation of Namibia. They also strongly supported the struggle of the people of South Africa to topple the apartheid regime.

The three leaders affirmed the utmost importance of the solidarity and cohesion of the progressive regimes and forces in the Arab region and Africa in routing the imperialist, Zionist, reactionary and racist plots and designs against the region's peoples.

Reviewing the conditions in Latin America, they condemend the American imperialist policy, which supports the fascist and dictatorial regimes. They also declared their support for the heroic struggle of the national liberation movements in Latin America. They declared their firm support for the revolutions in Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada.

Dealing with the development of conditions in Asia, they declared their support for the Kampuchean and Afghan revolutions and denounced the imperialist and reactionary interference in their internal affairs.

Reviewing the international situation, they affirmed their full support for the important positive role played by the Nonaligned Movement in the struggle to safeguard international peace and security and appreciation for its support of the struggle of the peoples fighting for liberation and progress. They considered nonalignment an important element for the stability of the international situation.

The leaders of the three countries noted with concern the complications in the international situation caused by the growing imperialist activity aimed at escalating tension and doing away with peaceful coexistence and international detente by the production of the neutron bomb and the setting up of a missile network in Europe and by the escalation of the arms race, the establishment and expansion of military bases and the exercise of an aggressive terrorist policy against the peoples.

They declared their condemnation of the grave imperialist policy which expose international peace and security to great danger.

They also declared their support for the efforts exerted by the peace-loving forces, particularly the various initiatives made by the USSR, in the Gulf, the Indian Ocean and Europe with a view to ending tension, halting the arms race and securing peaceful coexistence and international detente.

The leaders of the three countries declared their appreciation for the firm principled stands of the socialist countries which support the struggle of peoples seeking liberation and progress, in particular the struggles of the Palestinian people and the peoples of Namibia and South Africa.

They also affirmed the importance of deepening and developing strategic relations with the countries of the socialist bloc and the progressive countries and forces in the world.

The leaders of the three countries condemned the attempts by the industrial capitalist countries to impose economic hegemony over the developing countries with a view to frustrating the development plans of these countries and preventing them from achieving any economic revival for their peoples and from obtaining fair prices for their national products. In this regard, they affirmed the importance of a new world economic system based on economic justice for all peoples, thereby ensuring security, welfare and social progress and guaranteeing balanced economic and social growth all countries.

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam expressed their deep gratitude to the leadership and people of the PDRY for the warm fraternal hospitality and welcome they accorded them and their delegations during their stay in beautiful Aden.

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES CABLES ON U.S. 'AGGRESSION'

Soviet Trade Union Cable

LD271946 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1910 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Tripoli, 27 Aug (JANA)--The All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions [AUCCTU] of the USSR denounced, in the name of the millions of Soviet workers, the U.S. imperialist aggression against the people of the Jamahiriyah and condemned the imperialist-reactionary attempts to halt the progressive revolutionary tide of the Great 1 September Revolution.

In a cable to the brother commander today, the AUCCTU affirmed the solidarity of all Soviet workers with the Jamahiriyah people and trade and vocational unions against all American imperialist designs and the lackeys of American imperialism: Egypt, Sudan and Somalia.

SWAPO Cable

LD272138 Tripoli JANA in English 1916 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Tripoli, 27 Aug 81 (JANA)--The South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) has condemned the American imperialist aggression on Jamahiriyah people. This came in a cable sent by Sam Nujoma, SWAPO's president, to the leader. Following is its full text:

Dear Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution:

The South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) of Namibia has learnt of the unjustifiable aggression by American imperialism against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's Air Force, which is carrying its duties within the airspace and territorial waters of the Jamahiriyah.

The African liberation movements strongly condemn the American imperialist vile aggression against the peace loving Jamahiriyah. Let the Jamahiriyah people rest assured of SWAPO's and the Namibian people's total support for its struggle to defend the safety of its airspace and territories.

Dear Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, please accept our absolute revolutionary support".

[Signed] Sam Nujoma, president of SWAPO

HABIB CHATTI ARRIVES IN TRIPOLI FOR VISIT 26 AUG

LD270935 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2200 GMT 26 Aug 81

[Text] The secretary general of the Islamic Conference, Habib Chatti, arrived in Tripoli tonight on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. In a statement to a JANA correspondent, he saluted the Libyan Arab people's valuable efforts in defending the issues of the Arab and Islamic nations.

CUBAN DELEGATIONS ARRIVE FOR SOLIDARITY EVENT

PA271742 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] A delegation of the Communist Party of Cuba led by Central Committee member Jorge Torres has arrived in Tripoli to participate in the world conference of solidarity with Libya.

The event, which opens tomorrow at the People's Congress Palace in Tripoli, has been organized by the International Secretariat of Solidarity with the Arab People and its Central Cause--Palestine.

The conference closes on Monday and events marking the 12th anniversary of the Libyan revolution will be held Tuesday. Delegations from the Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples, the Cuban-Arab Friendship Association and dozens of other delegations from numerous countries and international organizations have also arrived in that Arab nation.

AL-QADHDHAFI CABLES SUPPORT TO ANGOLAN LEADER

LD271554 Tripoli JANA in English 0945 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Tripoli, 27 Aug (JANA)--Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great al-Fatah Revolution, yesterday sent a message to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of the People's Republic of Angola denouncing the racist and fascist aggression of South African troops against Angola and its friendly people. The message reads as follows:

Dear Friend Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola:

We heard the news of the repeated barbaric and terrorist attacks by the racists of South Africa backed by U.S. imperialism and international Zionism against your friendly people and country. We strongly condemn these barbaric attacks and re-pledge [word indistinct] of the Libyan Arab people with all their resources for your friendly people and government and they are ready to fight on your side to push back the imperialist racist aggressor.

Finally, I greet the steadfastness and courage of the militant Angolan people through their legitimate defence of their independence, the sovereignty of their territories and support for the heroic Namibian people struggling against oppersion by the racist and imperialist forces and for their self-determination.

Please accept my best wishes for you personally and your friendly people.

[Signed] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi

MAURITANIA

HAYDALA PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR SAHARA REFERENDUM

AB272007 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Mauritania will give positive responses to the request by the OAU Committee on Western Sahara to respect the results of the referendum and to refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of other countries. This was indicated by Lt Col Mohamed Ould Haydala, the chairman of the CMSN and head of state, in a statement to the press from his office made yesterday evening on his return to Nouakchott from Nairobi where he took part in this committee's meeting.

My country will not spare any efforts to ensure the success of the committee's mission by collaborating with it earnestly and in good faith, said the head of state, before expressing his desire to see the parties in conflict give similar help to the committee in question in the interest of the Moroccan and the Western Saharan peoples and also in the interest of peace and concord in our North-West African subregion.

Here is the result of the Nairobi meeting. The head of state stated that after hearing the various sides, the committee decided on the organization of a general and free self-determination referendum in the former Spanish Sahara. The referendum will be organized and conducted by the committee, in collaboration with the United Nations, for the establishment of a provisional administration assisted by a sufficient number of neutral forces. The committee met last Monday and Tuesday in Nairobi, the Kenyan capital.

MOROCCO

MAP VIEWS OAU DECISION ON SAHARA AS VICTORY

LD271500 Rabat MAP in English 1217 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Nairobi, 27 Aug (MAP)--The Algerian delegation and the delegation of the mercenaries were absent Wednesday from the "conference center" where Mr Peter Onu, assistant secretary general of the Organization of African Unity [OAU] read out the final text of the resolution adopted by the Implementation Committee on the Sahara.

Indeed, as soon as the reading out began, the few "Polisario" elements in the backstage hurriedly left these quarters, hardly containing disappointment and anger. No reporter had been able to wrestle a statement or a commentary whatsoever.

The same attitude was observed by the Algerian delegation which made no contacts and which even avoided international press.

The luckiest reporters got grunts and very vague remarks for answers, betraying thus the disarray and disappointment of our adversaries.

Reporters and international observers present in the conference center commented on this absence and said it reflected one more defeat of our adversaries and dwelt on the habit of the members of the Algeria delegation, flanked with mercenaries, to monopolize the press analyzing, interpreting and wrongly commenting documents and claiming the victories of their these and "failure of Moroccan dilatory maneuvers".

On the other hand, the same milieux join in their backstage analyses the Moroccan reaction at the end of the works of the committee.

As good specialists of African questions, international meetings and especially the Sahara file, these millieux noted the fact that the "Polisario", once more, had not been mentioned. This, of course, means the mercenaries remain a marginal and doubtful organization officially ignored by the OAU and which failed to impose its Sahrawi [Saharan] identity and its theses on the number of inhabitants of the Sahara.

Furthermore, the mercenaries failed to make the Implementation Committee pronounce some recommendation stipulating the withdrawal of Moroccan troops and Moroccan administration, in spite of the blind support lavished by Algeria and others.

Observers also noted that the "Polisario" will not be the right interlocutor for Morocco although it has striven in vain to make the OAU admit it. Indeed, for the African organization, the "Polisario" will be absent from the administrative apparatus which will prepare the referendum, whereas Morocco will maintain both its army and its administration in the territory. For these observers, the Moroccan presence constitutes for the OAU a legal act implicitely recognized and confirmed.

The molding of a referendum on the territory of the Western Sahara (former Spanish Sahara), whose geographical maps are deposited at the United Nations, is another crushing blow for the "Polisario", noted the observers. Indeed, the referendum will not include the camps in Tindouf and elsewhere. Those who will participate in the vote will have to prove their identity first and then come under Moroccan administration.

All these are positive acquisitions for Morocco, which is now stronger than after the 18th OAU, concluded the observers. Observers now have no doubts as to the outcome of this consultation.

SUDAN

KHALIL SAYS SUDAN TO RECEIVE U.S., PRC ARMS

JN271502 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1423 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Khartoum, 27 Aug (SUNA)--Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil, first vice president and minister of defense, has declared that Sudan is trying to obtain more advanced hardware from the United States and the PRC, particularly in connection with anti-tank guns. An agreement was reached on this during the recent visit to Washington. He stressed that these weapons will begin arriving in Sudan next year before Sudan celebrates the May revolution anniversary.

Addressing artillery officers, NCO's and soldiers in 'Atbarah before his return to Khartoum today, the first vice president said that the armed forces are the sole guarantee for stability. This why our preoccupation has been to modernize the armed forces and raise the efficiency of their personnel, equipment and weapons.

SUNA REPORTS ON FACTIONAL FIGHTING IN CHAD

JN271549 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Al-Junaynah, 27 Aug (SUNA)--An urgent SUNA dispatch says that fierce fighting raged throughout last week and ended yesterday between the Libyan-supported forces of Ahmat Acyl, minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, and the forces of El Hadj Mahmat Abba Said, minister of state for interior and security in the government of Goukouni Oueddei. Heavy weapons and guns were used in these battles.

The forces of Ahmat Acyl were able to win the battle due to the support of the Libyan forces. They expelled the Al-Burkan forces and captured the city of Adre, north of Al-Junaynah on the Sudanese-Chadian border. The dispatch says that part of the Al-Burkan forces fled to the south of Adre while another part fled to the north of the city when these forces ran out of ammunition. The forces of the 1st army, called Al-Burkan, which belong to Abba Said, had captured Adre on 17 August after defeating the forces of Ahmat Acyl.

TUNISIA

IRAQ'S TARIQ 'AZIZ ARRIVES TO CONVEY MESSAGE

JN271900 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1815 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Tunis, 27 Aug (INA)--President Saddam Husayn's personal envoy Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister, arrived here a short while ago within the context of his tour of the Arab Maghreb. 'Aziz said that he will convey a message from President Saddam Husayn to his brother President Habib Bourguiba and Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali dealing with bilateral and Arab relations. He added: I am happy to carry out this task and to visit Tunis, for which we harbor love. We are also proud of our relations with Tunisia, he concluded.

Meets With Es-Sebsi

LD272354 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi yesterday, Thursday evening, met Tariq 'Aziz, the deputy prime minister and envoy of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, who said afterwards that the talks covered bilateral relations and current issues. He pointed out that the views of both countries were identical on the matters discussed.

ETHIOPIA

SOUTH AFRICAN INCURSION STRONGLY CONDEMNED

EA271950 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Socialist Ethiopia has strongly condemned the military incursion by the Pretoria racist and terrorist regime's troops into southern Angola, describing it as part of an imperialist plot to violate the national integrity of progressive countries and an act designed to delay the independence of Namibia.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said in a statement today that the military attack launched by the Pretoria fascist forces against Angola during the week was a threat to independent African countries and the peace-loving international community. The statement said: Socialist Ethiopia accordingly strongly condemns the acts of aggression committed by the rascist and terrorist Pretoria regime and urges the international community in general and the OAU and United Nations in particular to render the necessary material and political assistance to the victims of aggression in Angola, Namibia and South Africa.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said the racist South African regime should be held responsible for its crimes and that the international community should punish it for the aggression it committed and the destruction of life and property it caused. The spokesman said that at present, reactionary forces throughout the world, confident due to the support they get from the Reagan administration as well as from anti-peace and anti-freedom forces, were increasingly pushing the world toward total confrontation. The spokesman said this was revealed by the U.S. Administration's policy on Latin America, Africa, Southeast Asia and the Middle East. The 300 km incursion by the racist and terrorist South African regime's troops into Angolan territory in violation of its territorial integrity is an example of the kind of conspiracy implicit in this policy.

ERITREANS CLAIM VICTORY OVER DERGUE FORCES

EA271046 (Clandestine) Voice of Tigre Revolution in Amharic to Ethiopia 1600 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Heroic fighters of the Tigre Peoples Liberation Front, struggling for the rights of the people of Tigre, on 25 August 1981 ambushed a Dergue force moving near a place called [name indistinct], killing or wounding 105 Dergue soldiers. In this encounter, the heroic fighters also captured a Dergue soldier, a Bren gun, six Kalashnikov rifles, a (?huge quantity) of ammunition and grenades, various useful items and [words indistinct]. The remaining Dergue soldiers fled in disarray.

TANZANIA

SOUTH AFRICAN AGGRESSION INTO ANGOLA CONDEMNED

EA271852 Dar es Salaam in English to Central and Southern Africa 1600 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] The government today unreservedly condemned South Africa's latest act of aggression against Angola which, it said, amounted to an outright invasion of the People's Republic. In a statement issued in Dar es Salaam, the government said it viewed with the greatest indignation South Africa's blatant aggression against Angola. It said this latest criminal act against the Angolan people and the occupation of some parts of southern Angola constituted not only another violation of international law but also a clear challenge to all Africa. Above all, the statement said, the scale and magnitude of the current South African aggression constituted a serious danger to the freedom and independence of all Africa as it did cause a threat to international law.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

PRESIDENT DACKO GRANTS AMNESTY TO PRISONERS

AB261007 Bangui Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 25 Aug 81

[Excerpts] The Cabinet met on 25 August 1981 under the distinguished chairmanship of His Excellency Mr David Dacko, president of the republic and head of the government.

Following the meeting the head of state signed an important decree granting amnesty to a number of prisoners on the occasion of the festivities of 13 August 1981, the anniversary of the proclamation of our national independence. The decree is as follows:

Article 1--An amnesty is granted for offenses committed prior to 13 August 1981.

Article 2--This amnesty does not apply to persons imprisoned for the following offenses: murder, assassination, patricide, infanticide, poisoning, mortal blow, attempt to commit these offenses and complicity in committing them, misappropriation of public funds amounting to not less than 1 million CFA francs, offenses against the internal or external security of the state, illegal arrest or detention and aggravated theft.

Article 3--This amnesty does not also apply to habitual criminals [words indistinct].

RWANDA

MOBUTU ARRIVES FOR VISIT, COMMUNIQUE ISSUED

Mobutu Remarks

AB251939 Kigali Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 25 Aug 81

[Text] President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire arrived this morning in Kigali for a 2-day friendly and working visit to our country. He was met at Kanimbe International Airport by his Rwandan counterpart, President Juvenal Habyarimana, who was accompanied by all the civil, military and religious authorities of our country as well as a large crowd of militants of the National Revolutionary Development Movement of Kigali. After the welcoming ceremonies, the president of Zaire, Gen Mobutu Sese Seko, was interviewed by the national press:

[Begin recording] [Question] Citizen president of Zaire, the national press is very happy about your visit to our country. We would like to know the framework for your visit.

[Answer] I do not think we should look for any framework for the meeting with my colleague. You know that the bilateral relations between Rwanda and Zaire are very good. Then, it is just normal that my brother and I meet periodically to assess, first of all, our bilateral relations and then discuss what touches [words indistinct] which you know. This is the reason for which I have come here after a private visit to the interior. On my return to Kinshasa I am stopping over here to meet my brother.

[Question] Citizen president, the international press reported recently that a border dispute between your country and the Republic of Burundi. What is it about exactly?

[Answer] I think this problem was blown up by the international press for nothing. This problem [words indistinct].

[Question] Citizen president, your visit to our country coincides with some intense diplomatic activities aimed at solving old problems, especially the Western Sahara and the Namibian problem, with sending missions to the Western contact group countries as well as holding a meeting of the OAU ad hoc committee on Western Sahara in Nairobi. While discussing bilateral relations, will you touch on these problems with the president of Rwanda?

[Answer] On these points, and to put your mind at rest, you should be patient until tomorrow when you read the joint communique which will be issued at the end of the talks with my brother.

Thank you, citizen president. [end recording]

Joint Communique

AB261730 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 26 Aug 81

[Joint communique issued in Kigali on 26 August at the end of President Mobutu Sese Seko's visit to Rwanda from 25 to 26 August 1981]

[Text] At the invitation of His Excellency Maj Gen Juvenal Habyarimana, president of the Republic of Rwanda and founding chairman of the National Revolutionary Development Movement (MRND), Gen Mobutu Seko, founding chairman of the MPR and president of the Republic of Zaire, paid a working visit to the Republic of Rwanda on 25 and 26 August 1981. This visit falls within the framework of good neighborly relations and the strengthening of the excellent cooperation and friendly ties which characterize the relations between the Republic of Zaire and the Republic of Rwanda. It is also in return for the visit that President Habyarimana paid to Zaire in February this year.

On this occasion, the two heads of state held fruitful discussions on topics of mutual interest to the two brotherly countries. The two presidents expressed satisfaction with the excellent ties of friendship and cooperation between their two countries and they renewed their common desire to work toward the strengthening and safeguarding of peace and security of their respective peoples. It is in this light that the two heads of state expressed their satisfaction with the positive results of the meeting of the Zaire-Rwanda joint commission on the abolition of the neutral zone between Giseny and Goma held respectively at the two border towns on 29 and 30 April 1981. They ratified the proclamation ending the existence of the neutral zone as well as the abrogation of the agreement on its creation dated 30 April 1981.

The two presidents reaffirmed their firm determination to consolidate the bilateral cooperation between the Republic of Zaire and the Republic of Rwanda and they stressed the need to reactivate the joint commission set up by the General Agreement on Economic, Technical and Cultural Cooperation signed on 28 October 1972 with the aim of examining sectors of common interest not covered by the regional cooperation within the framework the Economic Community of Countries of the Great Lakes (CEPGL).

Concerning joint projects, the two presidents agreed and once again stressed the priority given to the methane gas project of Lake Kivu in view of the needs of their two countries in the field of energy as well as the possible benefits to be derived from its by-products, especially in the development of agriculture. They therefore stressed the importance they attach to rapid end to the feasibility studies envisaged within the framework of projects in order to enter quickly into its exploitation phase.

In this regard, the two leaders agreed to speed up the setting up of the Rwanda-Zaire joint company on transport and the commercialization of (?butane) gas in conformity to the Bukavu Agreement signed on 3 May 1975 between Zaire and Rwanda.

Concerning regional cooperation, the two presidents noted with satisfaction that their common adherence to the CEPGL enables them to participate actively in development activities in the region for the well being of their respective people.

On the prevailing political situation in Africa and the world, the two leaders noted with satisfaction their identical viewpoints on the major problems facing the international community. They particularly reiterated their strong desire to work towards the strengthening of the OAU and the total liberation of the African Continent.

They also expressed their profound attachment to the fundamental principles of the UN and OAU Charters, particularly to the principles of self-determination and independence for all, noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries and to the peaceful solution to all conflicts.

The two presidents also agreed to meet as frequently as possible, convinced that such occasions which permit frank discussion of subjects of common interest constitute the best guarantee for strengthening brotherly, friendly and cooperation ties existing between the two countries.

At the end of his visit, Citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, founding chairman of the MPR and president of the Republic of Zaire, on behalf of the Executive Council and the people of Zaire, sincerely thanked his brother and friend, His Excellency Maj Gen Juvenal Habyarimana, president of the Republic of Rwanda and founding-chairman of the MRND, and expressed his sincere and deepest gratitude to the government and people of Rwanda, for the warm and brotherly welcome and the hospitality which was very African, which was accorded him and his delegation.

Issued in Kigali, 26 August 1981. Signed Maj Gen Juvenal Habyarimana, president of the Republic of Rwanda, founding chairman of the MRND, Gen Mobutu Sese Seko, founding chairman of the MPR, president of the Republic of Zaire.

ZAIRE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DELEGATION RETURNS FROM USSR

AB261807 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 26 Aug 81

[Excerpts] The speaker of the Legislative Council, Citizen Ndondobiado Kolimo, returned home this morning from the USSR. Citizen Ndondobiado Kolimo's visit lasted 8 days. The delegation he headed was composed of the second deputy speaker of the legislative council, Citizen Issia Amidala, and a group of three people's commissioners.

The Zairian parliamentary delegation, which arrived a few moments ago at Ndjili International Airport, was welcomed by the first deputy speaker of the Legislative Council, Citizen Kalonge Mutanbaye, the acting charge d'affaires of the Soviet Union in Zaire, and high-ranking officials of the Legislative Council.

During its stay in the USSR, the Legislative Council delegation visited four major cities in the Belorrussian and Ukrainian Republics before returning to Moscow where it held very fruitful talks, so it seems, with the first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Speaking to the press, Citizen Ndondobiado said he was very satisfied and impressed by the warm welcome given him and the Legislative Council delegation. He also expressed his satisfaction with the understanding which characterized the talks between his delegation and the Soviet authorities.

FIRST STATE COMMISSIONER RECEIVES EEC DELEGATE

AB251300 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 25 Aug 81

[Excerpt] This morning the first state commissioner, Nsinga Udjuu Untube, received Mr Perchman, EEC delegate to the Republic of Zaire. The first state commissioner and Mr Perchman broadly reviewed the different aspects of cooperation between Zaire and the EEC and particularly the aspects which are directly linked with the implementation of the Lome II Convention.

THE GAMBIA

COUP ATTEMPT LEADER REPORTED FREE IN GUINEA-BISSAU

AB271756 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Excerpt] Kukki Samba Sanyang, leader of the abortive coup d'etat in The Gambia, is at liberty in Guinea-Bissau, according to the Portuguese news agency, ANOP, thus refuting yesterday's report that Sanyang and nine of his companions have been arrested in Guinea-Bissau.

After the intervention of Senegalese forces in the Gambia, Samba Sanyang and his companions took refuge in Guinea-Bissau.

GHANA

SOUTH AFRICAN ATTACK ON ANGOLA CONDEMNED

AB271840 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Ghana today called on the apartheid South African regime to withdraw its forces immediately and unconditionally from Angolan territory. In a statement issued in Accra, the government condemned the attack on Angola by racist Southern African forces, which was in total disregard of the sovereignty of the Angolan people.

The statement said Ghana associates herself with a call for an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council. It called on all peace-loving countries dedicated to freedom and justice to join in demanding the withdrawal of the racist forces. It reaffirmed Ghana's support for the Government of Angola in her fight to preserve her territorial integrity and independence.

The Angolan Defense Ministry earlier this week announced that racist forces had made an incursion into its territory and had penetrated about 150 km inland.

LIBERIA

PLANNING MINISTER DEFECTS TO IVORY COAST

AB271518 Paris AFP in French 1350 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] Abidjan, 27 Aug (AFP)--Liberian Minister of Planning and Economic Affairs Togba Nah-Tipoteh has not returned to Liberia since the 9 August abortive coup d'etat and has asked for political asylum in the Ivory Coast, it was learned in Abidjan on Thursday from informed sources.

Mr Tipoteh, who was outside Liberia at the time of the attempted coup d'etat by People's Redemption Council Cochairman Gen Thomas Weh Syen against Head of State Master Sergeant Doe, was the head of the Movement for Justice in Africa (MOJA). He seems to be involved in the abortive coup d'etat, the same sources added. This abortive coup led to the execution, 5 days later on 14 August, of Vice President Weh Syen and four other soldiers.

Mr Tipoteh, a professor of political economy at the University of Liberia and minister of planning and economic affairs since the coup d'etat of 12 April 1980 in which President William Tolbert was killed, is said to be one of the most leftist men of the Liberian Government.

The Ivorian Government has since refused to confirm or deny the presence of Mr Tipoteh on its territory.

Doe's Reaction

AB272114 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 27 Aug 81

[Text] The Executive Mansion has described the decision of the former minister of planning and economic affairs, Dr Togba Nah-Tipoteh, to leave the People's Redemption Council [PRC] government as a betrayal of the confidence of the Liberian people and not resignation from the government. The Executive Mansion further described the action of Mr Tipoteh to remain in the Ivory Coast as defection from the country because of his own guilty acts against the Liberian people.

The Executive Mansion was reacting to a front page story in today's edition of the independent daily OBSERVER newspaper that Maj Dr Togba Nah-Tipoteh has resigned from the PRC government as minister of planning and economic affairs. The paper indicated that Dr Tipoteh had resigned from the government for what it termed increasing discredit of him by enemies of the Liberian revolution, and that the Liberian leader was shocked by the decision of the former planning minister for which he had to send a delegation to the Ivory Coast to persuade Dr Tipoteh to return to Liberia. However, in a strongly worded statement issued in Monrovia this evening at the Executive Mansion, the head of state, Samuel Doe, indicated that the OBSERVER story had not been accurately reported. Commander in Chief Samuel Doe, according to the Executive Mansion release, has received a three-page memorandum from Dr Tipoteh sent from the Ivory Coast by someone who was (?reportedly travelling through) Liberia indicating Minister Tipoteh's decision to leave the government.

The head of state said that before making a decision on the document had had to dispatch a delegation to the Ivory Coast to establish the authenticity of the memorandum from Minister Tipoteh. The Liberian leader said this would have enabled him to make a full report to the nation about the incident.

In his memorandum to the head of state, Major Tipoteh said, and I quote: Most regrettably, I am informing you that I am unable to continue to serve in our government at this time. I surely believe that my leaving the government will give the enemies of the Liberian revolution less and less opportunity to work against the interests of the Liberian masses.

Commenting on the report, the head of state, Samuel Doe, said the action of the former planning minister cannot be described as resignation but rather defection from the country because of his own guilty acts against the Liberian people.

The planning minister left Monrovia on 1 August this year, accompanied by the deputy finance minister for fiscal affairs, [name indistinct], to attend a meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, of the African contact group with the World Bank and the IMF. For 3 weeks, the Liberian Government had awaited Minister Tipoteh's return, but it was not until yesterday, Wednesday, 26 August, that the head of state had received a letter of resignation supposedly signed by Major Tipoteh from Abidjan, the Ivory Coast, where he had reportedly sought political asylum.

Head of State Doe said the defection of the planning minister has many implications, basic among which was his fear to face consequences in the 9 August abortive coup attempt against the PRC government in which he was linked as a principal partner.

Five PRC members including the former vice head of state, Maj Gen Thomas Weh Syen, were executed on 14 August in connection with the coup plot.

The executive release today also said that Tipoteh was even a failure in meeting the economic needs of the Liberian people, and that his credibility as an international economist and planner, both at home and abroad, has reached its lowest ebb, and therefore he has to find a way out. Head of State Doe was quoted as saying [words indistinct] Major Tipoteh has deserted the Liberian Army and is now [passage indistinct].

Meanwhile, the Executive Mansion has announced that Dr Tipoteh is meanwhile required to return home to give account of the activities of the Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs from 12 April 1980, until the time of his resignation.

ANGOLA

DEFENSE COMMUNIQUE REPORTS CLASHES WITH S. AFRICANS

EA280655 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 28 Aug 81

[Ministry of Defense communique issued on 27 August]

[Text] As announced in comminiques already issued by the Ministry of Defense, the heinous Pretoria regime is continuing armed operations against the sovereign territory of the People's Republic of Angola. The Ministry of Defense once again wishes to inform our people and international public opinion about military developments. Accordingly, it wishes once again to condemn the following armed actions perpetrated by the racist forces of the South African Army.

On 25 August 1981, after subjecting the (Changongo) municipality, the former Vila Rocadas, to intense air bombardment, the South African racist forces totally destroyed the municipality and occupied it. They also occupied the bridge on the Cunene River linking Cunene Province to Huila Province.

At about 0600 on the same day the racist air force resumed air bombardment of Cahama municipality. The racist ground forces became locked in fierce fighting with our troops at 0920.

On 26 August the forces of the South African racist army launched, as we expected, air raids against Ongiva town, capital of Cunene Province. An armored column of its troops simultaneously moved towards this capital, Ongiva, and deployed about 17 km from that town.

Also on 26 August, while Ongiva was being subjected to air raids and approached by ground forces, other aircraft of the same racist regime raided the Chibemba commune three times—at 1445 and 1510 [as heard]. The commune had already been bombed on 23 August. The air raids caused considerable material damage and wounded a number of people.

On 27 August the racist air force resumed raiding Ongiva town at 0500. The column, which had taken up positions 17 km from the town is locked in fierce fighting with our forces.

So far the people's armed forces have shot down an aircraft and a helicopter, destroyed a tank and inflicted a number of human casualties on the enemy. The number of enemy human losses has not been ascertained.

The struggle continues: Victory is certain.

[Signed] Office of the Minister of Defense in Luanda, 27 August 1981

The minister, Col Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale

SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY TROOPS BEGIN WITHDRAWAL FROM ANGOLA

LD281116 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 28 Aug 81

[Text] A report just received says the South African and South-West Africa/Namibian Security Forces have completed their limited task in Angola and will now return to their bases. Advance troops are already back in South-West Africa/Namibia. This was announced in Cape Town by the chief of the South African Defense Force, Gen Constand Viljden, and he said provided no further attacks were launched on the security forces necessitating self-defense action, the process of withdrawal would be completed soon.

General Viljoen said SWAPO terrorists had suffered grave losses with casualties running into hundreds. Large quantities of weapons, ammunition and landmines had been destroyed or seized.

After beating off attacks by the FAPLA, the military wing of the MPLA, the security forces did not follow up the action and therefore it is not known what losses the Angolan forces suffered. The total losses on the side of the security forces during the entire operation were eight men killed.

General Viljoen said the exaggerated publicity and propaganda put out by the Angolans made it necessary for the whole matter to be put into perspective. The territorial force operation backed by the South African Defense Force was not nearly on the scale alleged in Angolan propaganda.

AFP Report on Fighting

AB281100 Paris AFP in French 0958 GMT 28 Aug 81

[Text] Johannesburg, 28 Aug (AFP)--According to informed sources, violent rearguard fighting continues today between South African troops around Ngvia, capital of Cunene Province in southern Angola, but the South Africans have begun withdrawing.

This operation, whose objective seems to have been to destroy the SAM-3 missile sites installed in Angolan territory in Cahama and Chibemba (130 and 200 km from the Namibian border, respectively), as well as the SWAPO headquarters in Xangongo, should be completed this weekend, the sources added.

About 5,000 South African soldiers were engaged in this incursion into Angolan territory which Pretoria has described as a simple hot pursuit. South African official losses amount to six dead, plus two Namibians. No mention has so far been made of material losses, but the Angolans claim that they have shot down a plane, a helicopter and a tank.

This raid recalls operation "Smokeshell" launched on 7 June by the South Africans with the aim of destroying the SWAPO headquarters in the eastern and northeastern sectors of Cunene Province, observers note.

It seems that this time the South Africans want to finish the job they began in 1980 by destroying SWAPO's headquarters for the western zone of this province, bordering Namibia and situated in Xangongo (formerly Vila Rocadas).

There have been very serious clashes around this small locality (about 100 km from the border) and it is still impossible to ascertain whether or not the South African attempt has been successful. In any case, it is highly unlikely that South African ground forces have gone farther north than Xangongo, reliable sources say. The South Cunene Province, it is pointed out, faces the Namibian Ovamboland, where 90 percent of SWAPO's military activities take place. The South African prime minister, Pieter W. Botha, admitted Wednesday that his men had clashed with Luanda's regular troops (FAPLA) and experts observe that this is not astonishing since the logistic support between FAPLA and SWAPO is now largely integrated. There is nothing indicating that there have been clashes with the Cuban troops stationed in Angola, which, according to reliable sources, have not yet gone south of the Lobito-Lubango line.

South African losses are no doubt about the same as during operation "Smokeshell" (16 dead), informed sources say, but--true to its policy--Pretoria will take time to announce them in order to ease the effect on the population.

The South African military authorities--also true to tradition--are observing complete silence over what is happening on the other side of the Cunene River, and going alone to the operational zone in the north of Namibia is absolutely out of the question because it is permanently forbidden to civilians who do not reside there.